

# THE TIMES

When is a tyrant  
not a tyrant?  
Bernard Levin, P 14

## Britain achieves first balance of payments surplus for 10 months

Britain's visible trade deficit has sharply last month and for the first time since last March is to show a surplus on the account of the balance of trade. The deficit on our

trading with the rest of the world was cut from £509m in November to £179m in December but was more than offset by an estimated £200m surplus on invisible trading. Shares advanced strongly

## Exports up, imports down

Westlake  
reduction in Britain's deficit with the rest of the world was achieved last month as a result of the country's cut in imports. The current account balance of payments for the month was £179m, compared with a deficit of £509m in November. The deficit on our trade with the rest of the world was cut from £509m in November to £179m in December but was more than offset by an estimated £200m surplus on invisible trading. Shares advanced strongly

## Execution of Mr Gilmore first in US for 10 years

From Peter Strafford  
New York, Jan 17

Gary Gilmore, the convicted murderer who was determined to die, was executed early this morning by a firing squad in the Utah state prison outside Salt Lake City.

The execution, the first in the United States for nearly 10 years, took place in a building that had once been the prison canteen before about 20 witnesses.

Right up until the last moment there was uncertainty over whether the execution, which had already been stayed three times, would take place today. Late last night, in response to a suit by the American Civil Liberties Union, a federal judge in Salt Lake City had ordered a 10-day restraining order on the ground that the Utah death penalty law had not been tested.

But this ruling was immediately challenged by state authorities, who flew to Denver, in the neighbouring state of Colorado, in the small hours to have it overturned by the federal circuit court of appeals there. This court granted their request, one of the judges observing: "Among other people who have rights, Mr Gilmore has his own, and an error is being made and the execution goes forward, he brought that on himself."

A few hours later, just after 8 am, Mr Gilmore was led to the execution building, strapped into a chair and after the legal order had been read, he was executed.

A hood was placed over his head, a circular target was put over his chest, and the five-man firing squad took aim and fired in unison.

According to witnesses, Mr Gilmore had shown no signs of nervousness. His uncle, Mr Laverne Damico, told journalists that "Gary died like he wanted to die, with dignity. He got his wish."

Mr Lawrence Schiller, a journalist who is writing the dead man's biography, said: "It seemed to me Gilmore's body still had movement in it for about 15 or 20 seconds."

After the execution, the body was taken to the medical centre of the university of Utah in Salt Lake City. There, according to Mr Gilmore's wishes, parts of his body were to be removed for use in transplants and for medical research.

The Gilmore case was remarkable, partly because of the nature of the man and his insistence that he should be executed, and partly because it was the first time that anyone

Continued on page 6, col 5



Lady Avon, with her stepson, Lord Eden, entering the church at Alvediston, Wiltshire, yesterday for the funeral of her husband.

## MP opposes gesture for Lord Avon

By Hugh Noyes  
Parliamentary Correspondent

Mr Dennis Skinner, Labour MP for Bolsover, demonstrated in the Commons yesterday in protest against the traditional adjournment of the House after tributes on the death of a former Prime Minister.

He brought about a walkout from the Tory benches as he rose to speak and before he had opened his mouth. The Conservatives presumably stormed out believing he was about to launch an attack on Lord Avon, but if they had stayed to listen, they would have heard an argument which, as Mr Skinner, Labour MP for Liverpool, Walton, pointed out later, was courteous and not as outrageous as many of Mr Skinner's previous parliamentary interventions.

The member for Bolsover gave early warning of his intentions. After the traditional and moving tributes from both close and distant friends of Lord Avon, he voiced his protest.

He was not against tributes, indeed he explained that he fully understood the need for them. What he could not understand was why, when the Government was saying that it was pressed for parliamentary time, and that no place could be found for important debates, the House should be adjourned immediately after the tributes.

Mr Skinner suggested that at a time when Mr Foot, Leader of the House, was indicating that there might have to be a guillotine on the devolution Bill, it was outrageous that a man once noted for his unconventional attitudes should be supporting a motion to adjourn the House, after only three hours' business. Workers outside were unable to do that, and MPs were adopting double standards which were "a total and utter disgrace".

Mr Skinner adjourned when Mr Skinner was unable to find anyone to help him to force a division.

Parliamentary report, page 8  
Funeral, page 15

## Attorney General faces judges today over post workers' boycott

By Tim Jones and David Leigh  
Mr Samuel Silkin, QC, the Attorney General, will appear before the Court of Appeal today to explain why he refused to authorize a court action against the Union of Post Office Workers' proposed temporary boycott of postal services to South Africa.

He is prepared to take the fight to the House of Lords if necessary.

Mr Silkin, as one of the Government's law officers, makes his decisions without consulting the Cabinet. He is understood to be extremely angry at what he construes as political interference by the judges, and will oppose their view vigorously.

Once the matter is no longer sub judice, which should be in law the Attorney General will take up the cudgels in the Commons, where he intends to make a statement.

On Saturday Lord Denning, Lord Justice Lawton and Lord Justice Ormrod, granted an injunction to Mr John Goulet, administrative director of the National Association for Freedom, which prevented the union from implementing the boycott until today.

Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, asked if the courts were to stand by idly while the law was breached: was the Attorney General to be the final arbiter of whether the law was to be enforced?

Lord Justice Lawton said he could "conceive of many political reasons why the Attorney General decided not to intervene", and Lord Justice Ormrod said the court was faced with the gravest branch of the criminal law.

The same three judges will hear Mr Silkin put his case today.

The legal and political implications of the case tended to eclipse any rank-and-file union action over the TUC-backed call for solidarity with black South African workers against apartheid.

At Heathrow airport, London, "What had Mr Varley to say last Thursday about the proposed illegal action of the Union of Post Office Workers? Just that if their action was comparable to what they did in 1973, he, like the Conservative Government then, would think it sensible to do nothing."

Many leading politicians in all parties were scared out of their common sense by the trade union, he said. Conservatives should pluck up courage against the unions, as against "the cringing subservience of those who currently tamish the seals of public office."

Boycott 'going well', page 7

## 23 US Navy men die in capsizing of launch

From Harry Dobellus  
Madrid, Jan 17  
A shore leave ended in disaster for American sailors and marines in Barcelona early today, when a launch capsized as it was carrying them back to their ships in darkness.

At least 23 men died, and by tonight as many as 15 were still unaccounted for. Twelve others were being treated for injuries according to a United States consular spokesman in Barcelona.

More than 100 men were on board the launch at the time of the accident about 2 am, but no one was sure of the exact number. Frogmen, who had worked through the day, continued the search for the missing as darkness fell again tonight.

Survivors said the launch overturned in an accident involving a freighter. It was not clear whether the launch and the freighter actually collided, or whether the launch capsized in a manoeuvre to avoid collision.

Both Spanish and American authorities were investigating.

Barcelona, Jan 17—Perry Officer Richard Felzine, a survivor, said the seven-foot steel walls of the launch kept some of the trapped men from trying to dive out from under a manœuvre to avoid collision.

Both Spanish and American authorities were investigating.

## Multiple sclerosis

### New Year's resolution to send a donation

50,000 people in this country alone suffer from Multiple Sclerosis. And, sadly, it is often younger people—many with young children—who seem most prone.

Multiple Sclerosis strikes without warning, apparently without reason. As yet we do not know the cause, yet alone the cure.

This year, we shall need more money than ever if we are to be able to step up research and continue supporting those who already suffer.

Every £ will help and bring hope to our thousands of members who await a cure with such admirable patience.

There are many ways of giving. A money gift NOW; a legacy; a deed of covenant which increases what you give by over 50%. Or you could give some time to your local MSS branch. We'll gladly supply the address.

Just pop your letter of donation in an envelope and address it to:  
THE MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY,  
Freeport 348,  
4 Tachbrook Street, London, SW1V 1SJ.

And you don't have to stamp it unless you want to.

Help unlock the mystery of Multiple Sclerosis  
Giro number 5149355  
The Multiple Sclerosis Society of Gt. Britain and N. Ireland.  
Registered as a charity in accordance with the National Assistance Act 1968.

## Prison inquiry after prisoner killed four

Prison officers, senior members of the Prison Officers' Association fear that a riot among their members exceeds that of those they guard.

A senior officer said last night that action could break out at any time in the prison at Leicester, where four prisoners were killed and one injured.

Mr Rees said he intended to publish the report of the prison inquiry, and disclosed that he had called for a more detailed report from the Chief Constable of Derbyshire.

Mr Whitelaw, Conservative spokesman on home affairs, said: "This is one of the more serious breakdowns in security since the 1975-76 year, and it is a public and the prison service since the last war."

After he had pressed the case for an independent inquiry Mr Rees told him: "It need be a fully independent public inquiry is not ruled out."

Mr Whitelaw, Labour MP for Derbyshire, North East, called for a public inquiry followed by a debate on the inquiry's report.

Mr Rees said the report of the inquiry would be published in the Prison Service would be a better base on which to decide how to proceed.

Mr Jeremy Thorpe, Liberal MP for Devon, North, asked: "How did it come about that those responsible for transferring this man did not inform themselves or those responsible for his custody about his violent propensities?"

Mr Rees replied that if questions about the man were not answered in the report "we must look at it again."

Mr James Marshall, Labour MP for Leicester, South, urged MPs not to jump to a hasty conclusion over and breakdown in security at Leicester jail.

Mr Rees said disciplinary charges might well be involved. Before going further on this point he would like to be "absolutely sure of my facts".

Parliamentary report, page 8

## Family let chances pass raise the alarm

Details of what went on there after Hughes' escape were given by Mr Alfred Mitchell, Chief Constable of Derbyshire. Many of them have come from Mrs Moran.

On Wednesday afternoon, as far as the police can tell at present, Hughes got into Portery Cottage when only Mr and Mrs Minton were in.

Mrs Moran and her daughter arrived home soon afterwards, followed by Mr Moran, and all were confronted by the heavily armed Hughes.

Mr Minton and Sarah were put in separate rooms that night and the rest of the family were not allowed to see them. Mr Mitchell said both were probably murdered that evening, but Hughes kept up the pretence that they were alive by taking food to the rooms.

He allowed Mrs Moran to leave the house when council workmen called to empty the septic tank. Mrs Moran signed their workbooks but fearing for

## Woman held and £250,000 drugs seized in raids

Scotland Yard's drug squad has detained 10 people, including a woman, in widespread raids during a period of 24 hours. Last night, while more raids were being carried out, the Yard said drugs valued at £250,000 had been seized.

Among the 10 detained were two people from Holland.

The raids took place in London, and the Home Counties. Charges are expected to be brought today.

## Mr Mondale to visit London on Europe tour

Mr Walter Mondale, the United States Vice-President-elect, will visit London on January 27 for talks with Mr Callaghan and other senior ministers. He will be guest of honor at a dinner at 10 Downing Street.

Mr Mondale will have flown to London from Germany, and when he leaves Britain, he will go to Paris.

## French President attacks press over Daoud affair

With a lofty style reminiscent of General de Gaulle, President Giscard d'Estaing today rejected international criticism of France's decision to release Abu Daoud, the Palestinian leader. He told a press conference that his country's foreign policy would not be decided by the newspapers.

"France and her people have lessons to receive from no-one," he declared. The President went on to defend his economic policy and to claim that the Government majority was united in its aims.

## Proposed CIA chief withdraws

Mr Theodore Sorensen has withdrawn as Director-designate of the United States Central Intelligence Agency. He had been accused of taking classified documents with him when he left the White House in 1964. He was President Kennedy's counsel and used the documents in his book about the late President.

## Van drivers' 18p loaf

Leaders of the United Road Transport Workers voted by 64 to 63 in Manchester to fix 18p as the minimum price of a standard loaf. In London delivery men demanded 19p, but 18p will be the national price if the union executive approves the decision.

## Miners defiant

Leaders of Yorkshire and Scottish areas of the National Union of Mineworkers have voted to defy official policy and recommend rejection of the National Coal Board's offer on early retirement.

## Eight Africans are hanged in Rhodesia for terrorist bomb attacks

From Michael Knipe  
Salisbury, Jan 17

Eight Africans found guilty last September of acts of terrorism in Salisbury were hanged here today.

Together with another who was sentenced to life imprisonment, the eight men had admitted carrying out hand grenades at a restaurant and a nightclub in the centre of Salisbury, sabotaging railway lines and detonating explosives in an African township beerhall.

The incidents were the only acts of urban terrorism to have occurred in the capital so far, in spite of the intensified guerrilla conflict in the rural areas.

A 19-year-old white Rhodesian was seriously wounded in the restaurant attack and is still receiving medical attention.

The hangings followed an appeal by the convicted men which was rejected and an unsuccessful petition for clemency to President John Wrathall by the men's relatives.

As a rule, the Rhodesian Government does not announce the carrying out of executions. It did so today apparently as a consequence of the petition by relatives.

As a result of inquiries by the Rhodesia Herald following the relatives' petition, the Ministry of Justice admitted that relatives were not told in advance of the date or place of an execution and declined to say whether relatives were automatically informed after an execution or only on request.

## Opinion polls on social priorities

The Central Policy Review Staff, popularly known as the "think-tank", proposes opinion surveys on social priorities in education, health, housing and welfare. The object would be to test which available options would command public support, while taking care to avoid raising public expectations unduly, particularly on cash benefits.

## Fracas over gunman

Belgian security police and Zaire Embassy officials were blaming each other last night for the fracas at Brussels airport when security guards leapt upon an African who suddenly produced a sub-machine gun as President Mobutu of Zaire was arriving for a visit to Belgium.

## School exchange

Britain's independent schools have called for cooperation and discussion with state schools which would involve exchange of teachers, the use of each others' school buildings, and sharing sixth forms.

## Bevan stand backed

More than forty Labour MPs have signed a letter in support of the National Union of Labour Organisations in its backing of the appointment of Mr Andrew Bevan, a Trotskyist, as national youth officer. It was written by Mr Kenneth Weetch, MP for Ipswich, and addressed to Mr Arthur Clare, general secretary of the union.

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## Nobel snub

In a letter to the chairman of the Nobel prize committee, Lord Balogh describes some awards as "insulting".

## Civil Service

The first stage of a three-year reorganisation of training which has just been completed by the Civil Service may lead to a new style of public administration by the 1980s.

## Nato: Denmark, Holland, Norway and Belgium to check contract terms for American F16 fighter aircraft

Black Arts and Culture: An eight-page Special Report marking the opening of the Lagos festival last Saturday.

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\*The L-1011 TriStar became the world's most reliable big jet in August, 1973, after only 16 months in service. And has been ever since, based on airline statistics covering all big wide-body jets. The statistics, which record mechanical delays and flight cancellations, reflect the ability of TriStar to operate on schedule.

The Dash 500 and its powerful new Rolls-Royce engines also will give airlines a comfortable feeling about fuel efficiency. The present TriStars already are the world's quietest, most reliable\* most comfortable jetliners in the world. What a springboard for the Dash 500.

## HOME NEWS

## 'Think-tank' proposes new opinion surveys on social priorities in education, health, housing, welfare

By Pat Healy  
Social Services Correspondent

The Central Policy Review Staff, known popularly as the "think tank", has asked whether the Joint Approach to Social Policy (Jasp) programme should be changed. It proposed the programme originally to decide social policy at a time of economic restraint.

Now the review staff is suggesting that ministers should make public speeches on the options available for social services and their consequences. In that way an informed debate could take place, it is proposed, on issues as varied as the future of education, health, housing and welfare.

The review staff also proposes opinion surveys to test which options would command public support. Such surveys would have to be so designed as to avoid raising public expectations beyond what is possible, particularly on cash benefits.

Two groups for whom much more financial support has been pledged by the Labour Party are one-parent families and the disabled, but surveys there might be early action to help either group would be building up false hopes.

A third new approach might be occasional talks between two departments at top level to discuss important joint policy issues. An example suggested by the review staff would be discussions between the secretaries of state and permanent secretaries at the Departments of Health and Social Security and Education and Science on use of education resources to expand social work training.

Ministers are expected to decide on those issues this week at their third meeting under the programme. The meetings have enabled ministers to consider medium-term priorities across their departmental boundaries.

The programme has provided ministers with better information on which to decide priorities through the work of a specialist unit set up by the Central Statistical Office. But there is some scepticism in Whitehall about the idea that other advances made under the programme are a direct result.

Critics concede that cooperation has improved since Jasp began 18 months ago. An important activity under the Jasp programme is a review of the entire range of the social services, ordered by the Cabinet. The review staff has to avoid ministers, however, that anything on the scale of the annual defence review, which the Cabinet has sought would be impossible.

Instead, it concentrates on four specific areas. The most important will consider how the social services respond to clients' needs in education, health, housing or welfare.

The other three studies cover children, including the impact of the falling birth rate on education and health; use of manpower in the social services; and the variation between services in different geographical areas.

The study completed includes the likely impact on different groups of new policy proposals, the cooperation between local and central government, and the implications for social services of population change.

Work on the relationship between housing and other social policies has started recently because the Department of the Environment has been immersed until recently with its review of housing finance.

But the department has been cooperating with the Department of Health on difficulties of meeting the housing costs of the poor. A single, unified housing benefit is being considered to replace the rent and rate rebates and rent additions paid to people on supplementary benefits.

Such a benefit has been proposed frequently, but the need for it is now seen as urgent because of the confusion between the two types of aid. People on supplementary benefits have a "rent addition" included in their allowances to meet the full cost of their rent and rates and are therefore ineligible for rent and rate rebates. But if their total supplementary benefit is small, they may be better off claiming rebates instead.

The "better off" dilemma affects mainly pensioners whose main income from retirement pension is topped up by a small amount of supplementary benefit. An estimated 200,000 pensioners receive a supplementary pension of less than their full rent and rates, and three quarters of them would be better off if they transferred to housing benefits.

If a suitable formula could be found to combine the two systems, it would be a good example of what the Jasp programme was intended to achieve.

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## Ex-Rommel officer keeps Ulster buses profitable

From Christopher Walker  
Belfast

For residents in many parts of Northern Ireland the sight of a burning bus has become too familiar for more than a passing glance. In the past four months eighty have been destroyed by extremists, more than during any comparable period since the emergency began.

The total since 1969 exceeds 470, although Mr Werner Heubeck, the German-born managing director of Ulsterbus and Citybus, is uncertain of the exact figure. "It is like asking in wartime how many planes have been lost," he said.

Despite almost daily disruptions he runs one of the few public transport undertakings in Europe still financially profitable. Last year the surplus was £1.3m and it is expected to exceed £2m when returns are completed in March.

The main reasons are the unconventional management skills and approach of Mr Heubeck, once an explosives officer with Rommel's Afrika Korps, who frequently confounds the police and Army by personally carrying bombs off his buses. "It is not against the law, so there is little they can do to stop me," he said with a smile.

Recently, in a remote co Fermanagh, Jane, a hundred miles from Belfast, lost a quarter of a million for the fifteenth time, removed a bomb from a hijacked bus. It is an aspect of his activities that receives little publicity.

"My drivers face risks daily, so why shouldn't I?" he said. A formidable obstacle course awaits unions in pursuing claims under the schedule, not least an enormous application form, which should damp a lot of enthusiasm at the outset.

The forms are studied initially by Acas to ensure that the claim is within the scope of the schedule, and some claims will be turned away at that point.

Whitaker officials seem much less worried about the inflationary implications than the Confederation of British Industry and the Engineering Employers' Federation, both of which have condemned the measure.

However, the officials expect that claims for improved terms and conditions aimed at ending anomalies caused by the operation of pay restraint policies will stand a good chance of success. They remain confident that the Central Arbitration Committee (CAC), the final arbiter if Acas fails in a conciliation attempt, will not be a push-over.

The measure is designed to help to end pockets of low pay. Where there is a national or district agreement, claims can be made that the employer is not observing the requirements of the agreement, or that an employer is not observing the general level of terms and conditions.

It is that last provision that is exciting the unions most, even though its use is confined to that it cannot tackle relative problems within the same company. Any attempt, for example, to tackle pay anomalies between one plant of British Leyland and another will founder.

Applications for parity in a specific area of benefit, such as a profit-sharing scheme, may also founder because the CAC, if the claim goes that far, would look at the entire range of benefits to establish any differences in the "general level" of terms and conditions.

One precedent cited to prove that schedule 11 claims will not be easily succeeded is that of about 116 applications last year under the fair wages resolution (which, because of the schedule, is now virtually obsolete) only about a dozen succeeded.

Unofficial estimates are that the fair wages resolution covers about quarter of manufacturing industry. Schedule 11, however, applies to almost everybody.

Mr Heubeck attributes the network's financial success to an overriding determination to remain profitable. All buses are one-man-operated. Double-deckers are being replaced by single-deckers with standing room, and manpower has been heavily trimmed.

At 53 he is looking for a new industrial challenge, preferably rescuing another transport concern. "No job is ever completely finished," he remarked, "but if I was blown up today, Ulster's buses would go on running because the pattern has been set."

Mr Heubeck's roundabout route to Northern Ireland began in his home town of Nuremberg in 1946, when he met his English wife while serving as a translator at the war crimes trials. He emigrated to Britain and arrived in Belfast 11 years ago in answer to an advertisement for someone to take over the province's bus network.

With his Tiroler hat, lapelless suits, and guttural accent he remains unmistakably German but speaks fluent English, first practised as interpreter in an American prisoner-of-war camp. Highly respected by his employees, Mr Heubeck blends modern techniques with the rough, individualistic approach of an old-style boss, handling all union negotiations and stubbornly resisting political attempts to interfere with bus schedules.

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Mr Heubeck amid the wreckage of a bus destroyed by extremists.

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## Mr Ennals studies complaints at hospital

Mr Ennals, Secretary of Northampton General Hospital

Mr Ennals, Secretary of Northampton General Hospital, yesterday where doctors they were ashamed of it. He said press conference later it would keep in touch with regional health authority, the hospital's difficulties.

"I have no doubt the standards of patient care at Northampton are first class. We need to separate the lems as seen by the public from the problems seen by nursing and medical staff."

Parts of the hospital old and difficult for the nursing staff to work in. But my impression is hospital where devoted to coping with difficult problems posed both by the age buildings and by the great population."

He attacked "sensible newspaper articles on hospital, saying: 'It is so no service to the health or to the people who health service, for stat to be exaggerated.'

"I do not want to give impression that things are so bad, but we must get proportion. I have been in hospitals where the conditions are worse than here, but certainly urgent problems could not be accounted for patients waiting to be seen at the hospital for up to six weeks."

Mr Ennals said: "The of waiting lists is a one, which causes concern. There are a lot of things to talk to waiting time."

He was disturbed by the difficulties posed by hospital by the area's population. "It is a corridors that disturb is the pressure of patient staff."

Mr Arthur Bates, aologist, chairman of a committee, said that Mr Ennals said: "The here is deteriorating a deteriorate further unless things are well looked after."

Dr Alan Jennings, of the staff committee, said: "The point we have through to the minister, the people of this area, we have defended the services of the hospital lately and the result is that patients are well looked after but there is poverty in the edge of a disaster's sicient resources."

"It would seem an inference that people are because waiting lists are longer. Some who wait two weeks or longer into hospital will not be a case for treatment as one admitted as soon as sible."

**Plan to move staff 'grotesque'**  
A £23m plan to transfer then four-thousand Miss Defence civil servants a diff was described as a que wave of public me Mr Gwynne Evans, pr of the Royal Society, in a letter to the Chas of the Exchequer, he said diff could not house it people and had a wait of 3,600 families.

**Water-rate increases**  
The North West Authority announced for that charges for water supplies in the next five year would cost on average a week more. The charges sewerage and environment services would rise by 1p and 2p a week.

**Couple accused of old pecc**  
A couple accused of old pecc

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## Misfits in teaching should go, MP says

Teacher misfits should be removed from their posts, a former junior education minister declared last night. Any scheme based on discussions between the authorities and the teachers' unions must not have the appearance of a "witch hunt", Mr William van Straubenzee, Conservative MP for Wokingham, said.

"The misfits were like 'bad apples in the barrel', he added. "They do not pull their weight. They have no dedication to out-of-school activities. But it is one thing to say that: it is quite another in a democratic society to remove their livelihoods from them."

"Discussions should be opened with teachers' unions to see if agreement can be reached on the principles upon which the few teachers involved could be removed from their posts."

He was commenting on the statement by Mrs Williams, the Secretary of State for Education and Science, that during the years of education expansion young men and women with no great inclination or talent for teaching had entered the profession.

## Industrial action begins in 300 schools

More than two thousand teachers in 300 schools in Avon began industrial action yesterday in protest against redundancies and education cuts.

They are all members of the National Union of Teachers, and are taking action for an indefinite period, Mr Jack Evans, an executive member of the NUT, said in Bristol. They are refusing to cover for colleagues absent through illness and refusing to cover unfilled vacancies.

The teachers' move follows the dismissal of 32 teachers and the reduction in hours for a further 30 part-timers.

## 160 children in blood-lead survey

Birmingham is to continue its investigation of blood-lead levels with a survey of children aged between one and five. A total of 160 children, 80 of each sex, from all parts of the city will give blood samples in March.

The results will be reported to Mr Howell, Minister of State at the Department of the Environment, and are likely to be sent to the EEC in Brussels. The work may be important in helping to determine why happens next about lead in the environment not only in Britain but across Europe.

## Norwegian with pistol fined

Olav Askin Kjesrud, aged 35, a Norwegian pistol-shooting champion, who said he thought it was legal to carry a loaded gun next about lead in the environment not only in Britain but across Europe.

He admitted having a Browning automatic pistol and four rounds of ammunition without a certificate.

**Owl warning**  
Cheshire police issued a warning yesterday about a male eagle owl which escaped from an aviary at Sandbach during the weekend. The police said the bird could kill a deer and must not be approached.

## Big unions will try to beat the £4 limit on pay increases

By Christopher Thomas  
Labour Staff

Some of the biggest unions are involved in a spate of claims being examined by the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service (Acas) for improved terms and conditions outside the TUC-Government guidelines.

The applications are being made under schedule 11 of the Employment Protection Act, which has been widely condemned by employers for its wage inflationary implications.

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must, however, be out with the greatest of traditional  
Colonel McNaughton said  
McNaughton said  
old four-wheel freight  
was still a serious hazard  
and nearly two-thirds  
significant train accidents,  
radical elimination was

He said: "The probable cause of the fire is an accidentally dropped light. It is highly likely that both of them were quite severely intoxicated and so would not be as careful as they might otherwise have been in other circumstances."

Mr Bernard Mirfin, a fire-

a campaign by the council to deal with defaulters.

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## Second diver found

The body of Corporal Christopher Dunworth, aged 28, the second of the Royal Marine divers from Poole, Dorset, who died during an exercise in Loch

country roughly £40,000,000 in exports each year. Without electricity, this wouldn't happen.

Just think. No electricity. No recording studios. No great classical records. No tapes. (Goodbye to exports worth £17,000,000.) No electronic music. No Moog Synthesisers.\* No electric guitars. No

**THINK ELECTRIC**

Orchestra. No Music Industry.  
Records wouldn't have produced the  
without electricity, and look how they  
the Sixties.  
are this country's life blood.  
ty helps generate them.

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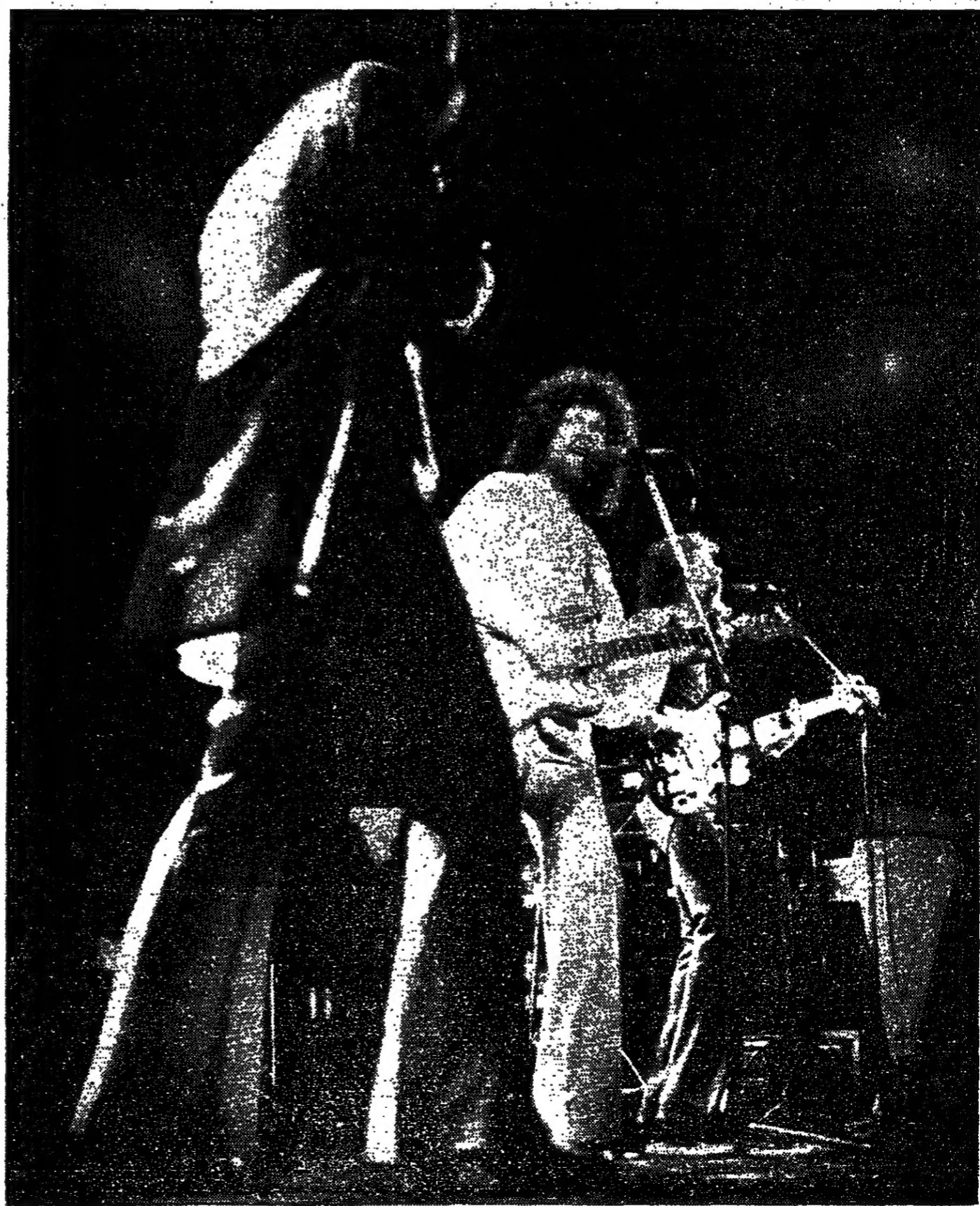
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*The Electricity Council, England and Wales*





ERSEAS

# er's nomination to backing for Sadat chief quits moves to restart eneva peace talks

Robert Fisk

Jan 17. — Her support for President Sadat's efforts to reconvene the Middle East peace conference will come this week when President Tito of Yugoslavia, whom Egyptians regard as the grand old man of the Arab world, is expected to arrive in Geneva.

Only surviving organizer of the original Bandung conference of 1955, which was the first time the group of Arab countries, President Tito's visit to the Arab world is seen as a sign of the Egyptian President's growing influence in the Middle East and relations with the Soviet Union.

Yugoslav President has long been a close ally of the Egyptian President, and his visit is seen as a sign of the Egyptian President's growing influence in the Middle East and relations with the Soviet Union.

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to supply spare parts for his aging Soviet-built tanks which are still guarding the desert around the Suez canal.

In Cairo, the Egyptian President is still receiving political accolades for his recent diplomatic performance in repatriating relations with Syria and supporting Syria's activities in Lebanon.

The latest of these compliments came from Mr. Charles Helou, the former Lebanese President, who has arrived in Egypt for talks with Mr. Sadat.

The new peace in Beirut, Mr. Helou was quoted as saying, was "due to the efforts of President Sadat and other Arab leaders".

But that it may, the Egyptians are still presenting a belated face where they feel it is necessary. An artillery battalion of the Egyptian Army spent some time yesterday firing large quantities of live shells down a firing range east of Cairo for the benefit of Mr. Helou.

Mr. Helou's visit is seen as a sign of the Egyptian President's growing influence in the Middle East and relations with the Soviet Union.

## Unions say boycott of S Africa going well

From David Cross

Brussels, Jan 17. — International trade union leaders in Brussels said today they were "very pleased" with the initial impact of their week-long protest campaign against South Africa which opened today.

A spokesman for the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU) said that affiliated unions in most industrialized countries of Western Europe and North America were already participating in the campaign or had announced their intentions of taking part at some stage during the week.

The ICFTU, which has its headquarters in Brussels, has helped to coordinate the campaign, but has left individual unions free to decide what action they should take.

The most active on the industrial front appear to be British and French unions, several of which are supporting trade and communications boycotts. According to information reaching ICFTU headquarters, French postal, metal and transport workers have agreed to back the boycott and other goods going to South Africa.

Similar action is also being taken by Canadian, Australian, Dutch and possibly West German and Belgian dockworkers at ports such as Rotterdam, Antwerp and Hamburg.

But the most favoured form of action appears to consist of poster and leaflet campaigns, as well as rallies and demonstrations organized at both shop-floor and the national level.

A big rally, organized by West German unions is due to take place in Bonn on Wednesday, for example.

In some countries, too, notably Britain, Norway and Sweden, trade unions are circulating lists of companies with South African subsidiaries so that their members can ask employers what they are doing about black workers and union recognition there.

At a press conference here today, Mr. John Vanderveken, assistant general secretary of the ICFTU, said the main aim of the protests was to make industrial workers in Europe more aware of the apartheid problem and its impact on black workers in South Africa.

"We do not expect Mr. Vorster to change his country's whole labour system overnight. But we are not going to stop. Our action will go on to build up public opinion against South Africa's policies," he declared.

Mr. Jacob Nyaaso, president of the Geneva-based Federation of Free Trade Unions of South Africa, gave his full support to the various actions being undertaken by British trade unions in particular. "We are grateful and very proud of the support they have shown," he added.

Our Foreign Staff writes: Canadian longshoremen in Vancouver, British Columbia, decided yesterday to boycott ships and cargoes from South Africa for a week.

In Zambia the congress of trade unions announced a week's boycott of buying or handling South African food. And Chad, which has no official relations with the republic, has stopped any goods or letters coming into its territory from South Africa during the week.

The Postal, Telegraph and Telephone International, in Geneva, appealed to member unions in 84 countries to join the protest.

But at Heathrow airport, London, a planned boycott of South African flights turned into failure as the first flight from Johannesburg touched down.

Loaders and airline staff members of the Transport and General Workers' Union worked normally and were waiting for the South African Airways Boeing 747 20 minutes before it landed.

British Airways leaders, who handle South African Airways flights, said they had "no intention" of following the call by Mr. Jack Jones, their union leaders, to "impede and harass" services.

## Shadow of guerrilla war forces the pace for a settlement Success is near for constitutional talks on Namibia takeover by moderate blacks

From Nicholas Ashford

Johannesburg, Jan 17. — With the prospect of increased guerrilla warfare along the northern border of Namibia, the South-West African, the Turnhalle constitutional conference in Windhoek tomorrow begins what is expected to be its final session.

Delegates from the territory's 11 main ethnic groups are participating in the talks which began in September, 1975, and are aimed at establishing a moderate multi-ethnic government to take over the territory from South Africa.

Provided there are no last minute hitches, the conference should be able to agree on a constitution by the middle of next month. The South African Parliament would then be able to pass the necessary legislation to establish an interim government with effective constitutional powers during the forthcoming parliamentary session, which begins on Friday.

The South African Government, conscious of the growing international pressure for it to withdraw from Namibia, wants to see an interim government established in Windhoek as quickly as possible. So much so, that Turnhalle delegates were told by Mr. Vorster, the South African Prime Minister, at a meeting in Pretoria towards the end of last year, that he might impose a constitution on the territory if the conference did not end their interminable bickering.

With hopes fading for a peaceful settlement in Rhodesia, the South Africans are anxious to prevent the territory from either declining into anarchy or falling under the control of the militant South-West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO). They hope that an interim government would be able to consolidate moderate rule and win the population to its side while the South African security forces stationed along the border would continue to keep SWAPO at bay.

The South Africans realize that time is not on their side. SWAPO, which is being armed and supplied through Angola, is becoming increasingly effective as a fighting force. At the same time, it has recently scored a diplomatic coup by winning observer status at the United Nations and the support of the General Assembly for an armed struggle to achieve self-determination and independence in a united Namibia.

SWAPO regards the Turnhalle conference as a ploy by South Africa to perpetuate its influence in Namibia. It has rejected suggestions that it should take part in negotiations with the Turnhalle delegates, saying that it will only engage in direct talks with the South African Government.

South African hopes for a speedy conclusion to the Turnhalle talks rose at the weekend after the conference's legal advisers finally agreed on a draft constitution. The draft will be considered by a conference committee tomorrow.

Details of the draft constitution have not been made known, but it is understood to involve the establishment of a three-tier government to rule the country until full independence is achieved at the end of next year. The first tier will consist of the central Government, the second of ethnic authorities and the third of local councils.

A vexed question last year, which at one stage almost led to the collapse of the conference, was the division of powers between the central Government and the ethnic authorities. The white delegation wanted to give the ethnic authorities a high degree of autonomy, but this was rejected by most black and brown delegates.

Under the draft constitution the most important and effective powers will be vested in the central Government. The constitution also includes a Bill of Rights to protect minority groups.

Matters which still have to be decided and could possibly delay the conference's progress include the question of land ownership and the timing and method of elections for a national assembly.

The conference must also decide what the territory is going to be called. The draft constitution makes provision for either "Namibia" or "South-West Africa".

## White men's bodies in Benin after failed coup

Cotonou, Jan 17. — The state-owned Benin newspaper Ehuza published on the front page today photographs of bodies of what it said were white and black mercenaries killed, by Benin soldiers yesterday in the attempted coup against President Mathieu Kerekou.

There were also photographs of munitions, incendiary bombs, and other arms and of wads of banknotes which, according to a caption, were found on an "African mercenary captured alive".

Cotonou, the business centre of Benin formerly Dahomey, today returned to normal 24 hours after its radio reported that airborne mercenaries had landed at the city's military airport, and captured a number of residential districts before being routed by troops and people's militia.

Official reports today said that barricades erected yesterday in Cotonou were still in place as troops and militia men attempted to flush out some of the mercenaries still hiding in areas around the military airport.

A number of residential districts had been searched by regular units during the night. The Voice of the Revolution radio, which continued broadcasting throughout the night, today relayed messages of support for President Kerekou from the heads of state of Guinea and Algeria, and from the Polisario Front of Western Sahara.

Lagos. The Nigerian Government is concerned about the situation in Benin, officials said. A Guinean broadcast monitored in Dakar said last night that "revolutionaries" in Ivory Coast and Senegal had passed on documents which showed that Guinean dissidents living in Ivory Coast had assembled an army, comprising Europeans, Americans, Israelis and South Africans, and equipped with submarines and aircraft. — Agence France-Press.

## Waldheim Middle East next month

From Stafford

Jan 17. — Kurt Waldheim, the Nations Secretary-General, announced today that he would be beginning his tour of the Middle East on February 1st, he said, he would visit Egypt, Jordan, Israel, and Lebanon.

He also gave a warning that if this opportunity should be lost the situation in the Middle East could become dangerous and present a threat to international peace.

Among the problems he faces is the fact that both the Israeli Labour Party and the Palestine National Council are due to hold meetings not long after his visit, which may make it hard to get firm guidance from them. He admitted this today, but said that a start had to be made sometime, and he could not wait until after the Israeli election, due in May.

He suggested today that a re-opening of the Geneva conference in the spring would be "a reasonable guess".

Dr. Waldheim emphasized that he had no illusions about the difficulties he faced. But he said that he thought the circumstances were now more favourable than they had been in the past, because of the end of the fighting in Lebanon, the greater unity among the Arabs and a readiness to negotiate on the part of Israel.

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## Indian woman ends 14-day jail fast

Jan 17. — Miss Marie Leclerc, a Canadian last July during her 14-day hunger strike.

Leclerc, who appeared today for the first time in court, said the prison authorities had promised her more letters at the end of this week. She also said that she had been in the prison for 14 days and was now feeling much better.

Leclerc, a former secretary from Quebec City, looked well during her court appearance, which the magistrate initial suspension on the grounds that she should be charged with druging and robbing of three French tourists last June.

One of her Indian lawyers argued that the police had insufficient evidence to warrant her being charged and committed for trial.

A state prosecutor, however, said Miss Leclerc had been implicated in the case by another defendant, an Australian woman, who had agreed to become a witness for the state. The Australian woman was earlier granted a pardon in exchange for her evidence.

The magistrate said he would hear further arguments next Monday before making a decision.

Miss Leclerc appeared in court with two other defendants, Charles Sobhraj, a French Vietnamese, alleged by the police to be the leader of an Asian murder ring, and Jean Dhuisme, a French national who held in the case.

The three also are being held in connection with the drugging and robbing of another French tourist group last year and the murder of a French tourist in another case. Formal charges have not yet been made in either case.—AP.

## murder plot trial 'a frame-up'

From Modiano

Jan 17. — Gregory Staktopoulos, a 34-year-old Greek, was sentenced today to 15 years in prison for the murder of a Greek police officer, an American correspondent, is seeking on the ground that he was a victim of police violence.

Two Greek comrades, blamed for the murder, were also sentenced to 15 years in prison.

Staktopoulos said: "I was d by the Greek police attempt to reverse a public sympathy for the murder. I am d of that."

He said he had authorized the necessary for a trial. He "Traces of torture and shocks are still visible on my face and legs 29 years after I tried to convince I had to sign a false confession because the national interests were at stake."

Mr. Staktopoulos, who is now the Athens editor of the Salonic daily Makedonia, said: "They destroyed my family. My mother, who had already lost a son in the war, died shortly after my conviction as a murderer. On my sister's last day, she died last year. Another sister is mentally ill. And I still have the traces of two suicide attempts I made while in detention. I had absolutely nothing to do with the Polk affair."

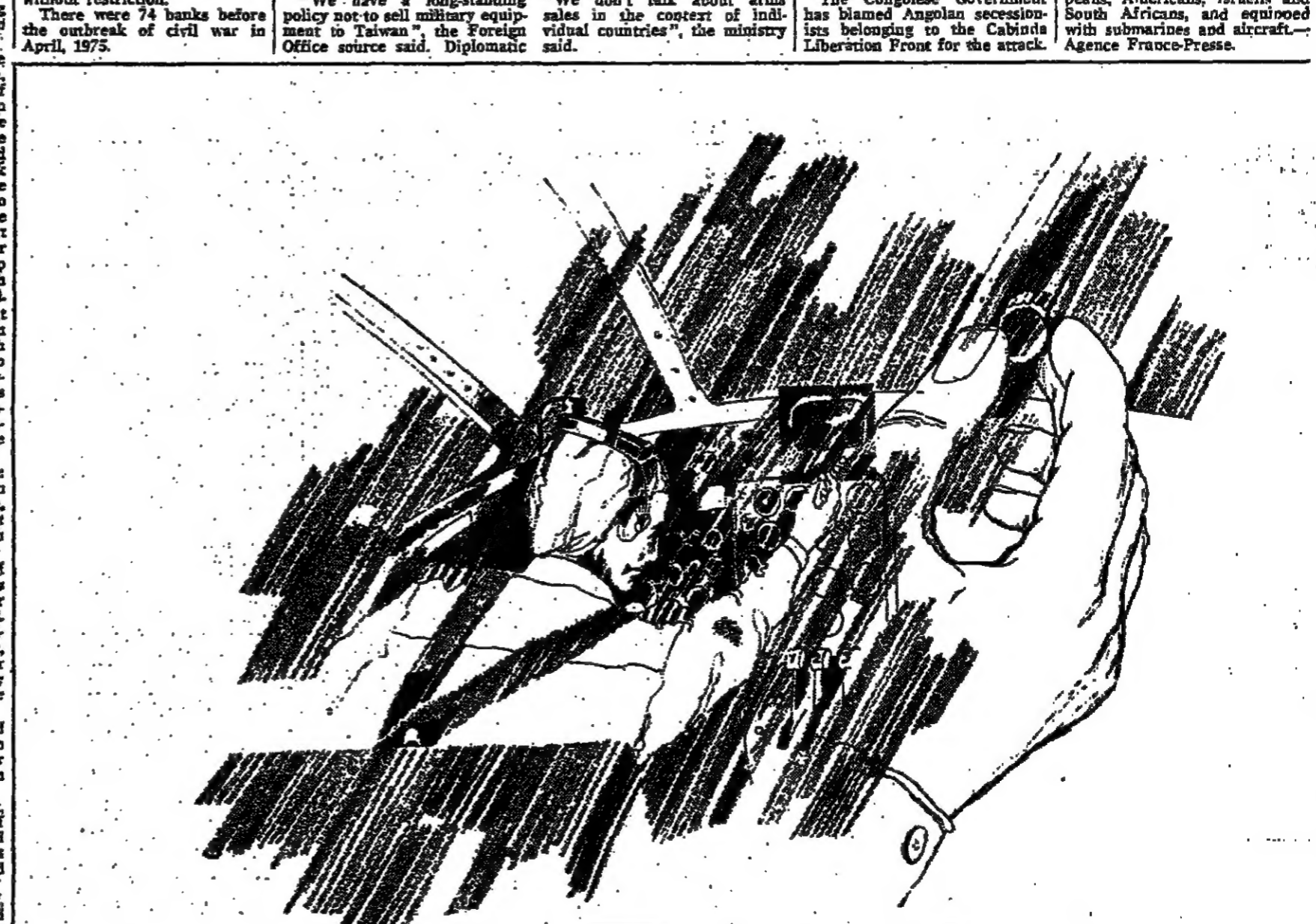
Mr. Staktopoulos was arrested three months after Mr. Polk was found shot and drowned in the Bay of Salonic in May, 1948, at the height of the Greek civil war.

The police said they had confessed to putting Mr. Polk, who was wanted to interview the rebel leader General Markos Vafiadis, in touch with two leading communist. They took Mr. Polk in a boat, ostensibly to lead him to Markos, but shot him in the head and dumped him in the sea.

The trial of Mr. Staktopoulos that followed in Salonic in April, 1949, left many gaps. General William Donovan, the wartime chief of the American Office of Strategic Services, who investigated the case, produced an inconclusive report. The communists claimed that one of the two rebels named by the police as the murderers had been killed in action before the Polk murder. The other, Vangelis Vasiliadis, who is now living as an expatriate in Rome, is seeking to return to Greece, said he had no connection with the murder and is willing to prove it.

The two rebels were given death sentences in absentia and Mr. Staktopoulos was sentenced to life imprisonment. He spent four years in isolation in the Salonic security police headquarters. Later he was transferred to a prison. He was released after 12 years.

He said: "The time has come for those responsible for the Polk murder and the injustice done to me, to pay for their sins."



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## THE ARTS

The Winslow Boy  
BBC1

## Stanley Reynolds

The 1948 film version of *The Winslow Boy*, a fairly regular rerun on television, was direct, sensible, with right timing in the end, but with none of the comedy of Cedric Messina's play of the Month provision of Terence Rattigan's play on BBC 1 on Sunday.

At times Mr. Rattigan was positively Shavian in his play and with the elegant Alan Badel as Sir Robert Morton, the advocate, and Michele Dotrice as Catherine Winslow, the beautiful, elegant daughter of the house, Mr. Rattigan, Mr. Messina, and David Giles, the director, had a perfect pair. Indeed, there seemed to be the makings of a CBS soap opera in their relationship. You wanted so much for them to fall in love, for an episode we could switch on next week, that you quite forgot the Winslow boy himself, the naval cadet who was wrongly accused of forging a five-shilling postal order. Perhaps it is the new and elegant hard times, but I enjoyed the mannered speech of Mr. Badel and Miss Dotrice, of Eric Porter too, as the boy's father.

Cedric Messina was true to the original and there is no need to praise Mr. Rattigan's skill at hand-tooling a play. Yet, as pleasant as pleasing as the play was, the old complaints about Mr. Rattigan's work still hold true. That is, where are the villains, the bad guys? True, Mrs. Winslow's beau jilted her because of the scandal the case was causing. That was a slight dash of bitterness in a sweet cup. Outside, the faceless authority which had branded the Winslow boy as a thief was refusing him a fair trial. This authoritarianism, however, never showed its face. It was mentioned only in passing. The outcome, the happy ending, was never in doubt.

If Mr. Rattigan was not after faceless authority, what then was he aiming at? He was, I think, simply aiming to please and that, in spite of the fine acting and production, is not enough for anyone, save Mr. Rattigan's Aunt Edna.

London  
debut

Buson's *Indianisches Tagebuch* is not exactly standard recital fare and Martin Berkwitz is to be commended for including it in a debut programme. The four movements form a sophisticated commentary on the supposedly noble savage, elegantly and with a sense of humour. The first movement, *Indianisches Tagebuch*, is a study in the use of the piano. The second, *Indianisches Tagebuch*, is a study in the use of the piano. The third, *Indianisches Tagebuch*, is a study in the use of the piano. The fourth, *Indianisches Tagebuch*, is a study in the use of the piano.

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Max Harrison

## Mr Breakwell's diary

Paul Overy

Two exhibitions now at the Arncliffe Gallery, Bristol, make an instructive comparison. Both artists have challenged the traditional means the painter has used for centuries, up to and including much of the avant-garde art of the early twentieth century: paint applied to a rectangular canvas or board.

Stephen Buckley still makes what are clearly recognisable as paintings, even though they may consist of several canvases stuck together in various ways, or appear to be painted on the back of a normal canvas with the "stretchers" revealed rather than concealed.

There is some doubt whether Ian Breakwell should be considered an artist at all. By that I do not intend an insult, but to suggest that he could equally well be considered as a writer or film-maker. A selection from his Diaries has just been published and last year he completed a remarkable film *The Journey*—the most complex of several films he has worked on. He has also organized happenings and performances.

Yet it is right, I think, to regard Breakwell as an artist. His Diaries consist almost invariably of an observed event or confrontation, but the image created is a strongly visual one. When read in cold print, continuously, as in *Diary Extracts 1968-1976* (Midland Group, Nottingham £1.50) they can appear a bit monotonous. They work much better in the pages of the Diary itself, where they are often combined with visual images (usually photographs or photomontages). This is how they are shown at the Arncliffe. Breakwell's Diaries are made in large, page-a-day, desk diaries. He has been keeping them for over 10 years. More recently he has tended to work on a page each day. In other years he works more spasmodically. Sometimes they are completed in retrospect: "eg. I may make notes, sketches, negatives, etc. in February, which are worked on and finally realized in July."

The observed events which are recorded (usually in writing) in the Diaries are, presumably, particular to these days. But as events or images may bring back a memory and that is sometimes incorporated into the work for that particular day. A diary, by its very nature, is personal. It becomes art if the diarist can give the personal observation a general meaning and significance. As a combination of visual and verbal observation, association, juxtaposition, sketches, Breakwell's Diaries achieve a generality of the artist's talent, essentially that of montage, the bringing together of often disparate images to create a new and significant meaning.

Breakwell's most successful work so far is the film, *The Journey*, made with a grant from the Arts Council. Here the montage of visual and verbal images is taken to a new level.

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A page from the diary

dimension, that of sound. The journey of the title is a grain journey, or rather a montage of several grain journeys, in which the thoughts and past life of the protagonist (Breakwell) are the images and sounds of the grain. Much of it derives from earlier in the Diaries like this: "9.25 Leeds-London train. The woman in the corner seat wears a great velvet coat trimmed with laminae, fur, and knee-length, maroon suede boots. She falls asleep, sinking into the corner of the seat. Her head velvet skirt slides up around her thighs; her mouth falls open and is reflected in the window, superimposed on the night landscape outside. The train runs parallel with a motorway, cars and lorries flash past. Her mouth, their headlights, on-fall. She wakes up, coughing."

Much of the film is erotic. Its erotic content is created by means of the montage of images and sounds and is never gratuitous. It is a dense, rich work, often very beautiful. The Arts Council seem to have

been chary about handling it, keeping it under their hat. Yet its sexuality is far less explicit of realistic than much which gets shown in the commercial cinema. However, it is available for looking from the Arts Council and is being shown, with Breakwell's earlier film, at the Arncliffe on February 9, 2.30-4.00 pm and on February 12, 11.30-1.00 pm. Breakwell will introduce the films on both occasions and after the second showing will read from the Diaries at 2.00 pm. The exhibition *Continuous Diary*—selections from the Diaries, and related works in various media—continues at Bristol until February 19. It will be shown at the ICA in London in the spring and at the Midland Group, Nottingham, this summer.

The new Arncliffe Review, to be published every two months, contains an interview with Breakwell and an article on Stephen Buckley's work by Peter Fuller.

Buckley is concerned with the problems facing a painter today. How is he to give new

life to a medium which has become attenuated and academic? Buckley ignores the problem, presumably seeing no future for painting, at least for himself, and preferring to work in the mixture of mediums he has defined for his territory. Buckley tries to solve it by breaking up the convention of paint on a flat surface, but this solution remains tied to painting and to reassembling the constituents of painting in a different way. His works look more like a running commentary on recent art history than a real attempt to make painting speak a language that can move us in something other than a self-referential and aesthetic manner. The Buckley show continues at the Arncliffe until February 26 and afterwards will be seen at Aberdeen and Leigh (Greater Manchester). Also in Bristol, at the Royal West of England Academy, is a retrospective of paintings, drawings and collages by Terry Frost until Saturday. I hope to cover this when it comes to the Serpentine next month.

For novelty in their mixed first half they produced another sure, *King Solomon and the Sea*, by the Israeli, Ram Da-Oz (born 1929), contemporary music without tears after the poet. Black pianisticly expressed. Their most ambitious undertaking so far was nevertheless Hummel's Grand Sonata, Op. 92, which for its expressive slow introduction, its Mendelssohnian slow movement, and the charming rondo theme of the finale was well worth unearthing.

## Pianist to the rescue

Michael Houston  
Queen Elizabeth Hall

## Max Harrison

Haring replaced an indisposed Horacio Gutierrez at only 24 hours' notice, the young New Zealand pianist, Michael Houston, gave some attractive performances on Sunday afternoon. Bach's Partita No. 2 in C minor was sensitively "orchestrated" for the piano, and the opening Sinfonia had a piquant, high-stepping grace. The Allemande was fluid yet thoughtful, the Courante distinguished by clarity of part-playing. The long lines of the Sarabande, too, were marked by delicate nuances and there was some well judged pedalling here. Each movement, indeed, was given a distinct character, but also carried a feeling of belonging to the others: Mr Houston even differentiated between the two sets of bustling energy found in the Rondo and the Capriccio.

An excellent sense of scale was apparent, too, in the first movement of Beethoven's "Waldstein" Sonata, in terms both of the size of the music's gesture and the use of pianistic resource: there were no exag-

gerations. The "Waldstein's" central Adagio is a Third Period work, and is a remarkably concentrated utterance; Mr Houston conveyed something of its inwardness, and managed especially well the rise in tension as the music moves towards the final Rondo. At that point the tension is released, and the gentle flow of the last movement's first theme was most beautifully caught.

The first few of Chopin's preludes did not find Mr Houston in a particularly searching mood, and the action may be said to have started, unexpectedly enough, with the A major piece, the fleeting ghost of a mazurka. The stormy F sharp minor prelude showed he was equal to this cycle's virtuoso demands, and the brief yet vivid impressions of the pieces in C sharp minor and B major were exactly projected. Mr Houston has some way to go before it can be said that the "Prelude" many facets make up a unified whole in his hands, but already he is well in contact with the coolly nocturnal character of the F sharp major piece, the muffled, slightly threatening aspect presented by the E flat minor, and with other things.

## Beyer/Dagul

Wigmore Hall

## Joan Chissell

A century ago no doubt half of Europe's music-lovers played piano duets in the parlour on Sundays. It seemed somewhat strange to be summoned to Wigmore Hall on Sunday to hear two hours of duetting from Isabel Beyer and Harvey Dagul. Even if still essentially a domestic rather than concert platform pastime, at least the two musicians rewarded us with a programme of pieces that you could easily live a lifetime without hearing.

Their second half, devoted to France, ended with the only repertoire work, Ravel's *Rapsodie Espagnole*, though even that is rarely heard in duet version. The festive brilliance of the concluding "Feria" lay a little beyond this duo's grasp, and in the "Habanera" they missed the sensual undertones of the lary lift. But the opening "Prelude à la nuit" was nicely delicate and atmospheric, and there was much to enjoy in "Malaguena".

Either because they were more relaxed, or because the music itself was better cast for the medium, Miss Beyer and Mr Dagul emerged much closer as a duo on French soil. Nothing brought a more subtle and seductive blend of sound from their four hands than Jean Roger-Ducasse's engaging *Two Studies*, which, though described as "pour un commencement", were in fact considerably less innocent than Koechlin's *Sonatine Française* No. 4.

For novelty in their mixed first half they produced another sure, *King Solomon and the Sea*, by the Israeli, Ram Da-Oz (born 1929), contemporary music without tears after the poet. Black pianisticly expressed. Their most ambitious undertaking so far was nevertheless Hummel's Grand Sonata, Op. 92, which for its expressive slow introduction, its Mendelssohnian slow movement, and the charming rondo theme of the finale was well worth unearthing.

East Berlin has a ball  
with Arabella

East Berlin's great old German State Opera, on the Unter den Linden not only has an Austrian Generalmusikdirektor, Oskar Suinter, but one who has repeatedly shown a particular affinity for works by Austrian composers and by his own Bavarian mentor, Richard Strauss. Mr Suinter, in the podium makes this company's new production of Strauss's *Arabella* especially noteworthy.

In the printed programme, Mr Suinter goes into some detail about everything he did wrong when he conducted a new *Arabella* production in 1963 in Dresden, where the opera had had its world premiere 30 years earlier. Drawing upon personal association with Strauss during the 1942 Salzburg Festival production, and upon changes Strauss himself made there, Suinter in 1963 not only returned the music for Strauss's scene with Arabella in Act III in favour of spoken dialogue, he also further truncated Fackermüller's brief but brilliant coloratura role, and he made no pause at all between Acts II and III.

Preparing the present production, Mr Suinter says, he returned to Strauss's original score as if for the first time and declares himself "dis-mayed" to find what he himself had done to it in Dresden 14 years earlier. Penitentially, he has now given us Arabella as closely as possible to the way Strauss wrote it and not as Strauss altered it in Salzburg in 1942 to adapt to such misfires as his singing coloratura no longer up to the Fackermüller role.

Erich Witte, in staging this new production, has made as credible as possible the various outrageous situations the Hofmannsthal libretto defies us not to believe. That one single pocket-sized photograph of an unknown girl can so galvanize Mandryka that he drops everything and rushes, presumably, for home and marriage off the way from Croatia to Vienna, that a young girl, formerly into transvestism to enhance



Franz Ferdinand Nentwig and Anna Tomowa-Sintow

Photograph by Willi Saeger

her older sister's marital choice, to take towards that sister not with hatred but even resentment but with un-bounded selfless love; that Mandryka and Arabella, after about half an hour's superficial acquaintance, at a frothy Fackermüller party, plan in all seriousness, not only their marriage but their entire future—all of that, and more, too, Hofmannsthal seriously expects us to swallow whole. No matter—at least in this production, thanks to effective

of any number of operatic stage directors working today in capitalist, anti-Communist West Germany. According to the information, the traditional Coachman's Ball, which started in 1787 and provides the setting for *Arabella*'s second act, brought the Volk exceptionally into drinking and dancing commiseration with the ruling classes once a year during the pre-Lenten carnival—a situation any conscientious Marxist could really sink his teeth into. For whatever reason, this production makes that ball as jolly and uncomplicated as it is the never-never land of opera.

Mr Suinter conducts with a deft sense of pace and balance, and ample Viennese Scherzo. Kay Gröbner as Arabella, Magdalena Fackermüller as her sister Zdenka, Annelies Burmeister and Siegfried Vogel as her parents, Franz Ferdinand Nentwig as Mandryka, and Harald Neudörfl as Metster head a strong cast. They do themselves proud by this lovely music, especially in those lush duets Strauss dropped into the opera, one each act, like great, excellent phrases.

For those with long memories, hearing *Arabella* in this house can evoke intricate, largely elegant associations with the ruling classes of Berlin premiere here soon after its world premiere in Dresden on July 1, 1933. Two months earlier the Nazis had risen to power, and Strauss had dedicated his score to Dresden's *Intendant* and to Fritz Busch, its *Generalmusikdirektor*; by the premiere both had lost their jobs and Clemens Krauss, taken over as conductor, Strauss had composed the title role for Lotte Lehmann, whom in *Rosenkavalier*, he had called "the greatest of all Marschallins". Another soprano, ethnically pure, took over in Dresden, and Miss Lehmann emigrated. *Arabella*, from the beginning, never got the production for which Strauss had created it.

Paul Moor

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"We are discovered and interrupted Anna Maria; let us collect our property—and other people's—and depart at once." Samuel Whistler may have been an extreme case, but there is an element of the collector in all of us. It survives in Russia, and even one suspects in the inhabitants of the New China. Some people hoard Old Master paintings, others walking sticks or sea-side souvenirs. But at whatever level we indulge our acquisitiveness, there are squares laid for the unwary. The market in less expensive prints—say under £200—and in limited editions and artist's proofs may be taken as typical. Prints depend on rarity and condition, as well as on quality for their value, which is a long-winded way of saying collectability, and it is still possible to buy well and cheaply both among the Old Masters and the more modern artists. Some of the great British printmakers of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries in particular seem undervalued today. Robin Garton of Lancashire Court, W1, off Bond Street, where he also

exhibits contemporary figurative painters, specialises in many of these artists. He has Whistler lithographs, often priced between £100 and £250, as well as examples by James McBey, D. Y. Cameron, Muirhead Bone, William Rothenstein, Augustus John, C. S. Keene and others at between £12 and £50. It is possible to buy the works of the seventeenth and eighteenth century mezzotintists for similar sums. So far, all is comparatively simple. However, things are more complicated when it comes to artist's proofs and limited editions. One of the troubles is a confusion of terminology. An artist's proof may merely be an example pulled by the artist before final alterations to the plate, and as such it can be rare and valuable. On the other hand, the term is now widely used to describe coloured reproductions of the work of an artist, usually produced by photographic means and signed by the artist. These can be very attractive, but they should not be thought of as prints in any real sense, any more than a good illustration on a

calendar. Although they are very popular at the moment, one wonders whether they will ultimately hold their value.

Limited editions, too, have become something of a paragon phrase. It can mean a signed and numbered edition, usually limited to fewer than one hundred copies, produced by the artist himself before the publication of a commercial edition. However, in recent years there have been a number of widely advertised offers of modern prints in limited editions of a thousand or so. These need to be looked at very carefully. Often they seem to be produced after the artist's death from old and much used plates. An edition of this size is nearly on a par with Monty Python's medallions, which were "strictly limited to the number we can actually sell." It is much better to go to a firm such as Christie's Contemporary Art, of Albemarle St, W1, who commission their really limited editions directly from the artists.

Huon Mallalieu

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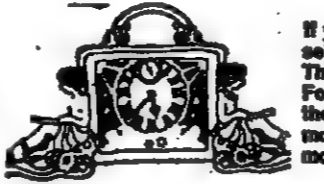
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a meeting of the shareholders  
of the above-named company  
will be held at the offices of  
the company, 10, Abchurch  
Lane, London EC4N 3DF, on  
Monday, 24th January, 1977,  
at 10.00 a.m. for the purpose  
of considering and voting  
on the proposed amalgamation  
of the company with the  
company known as the  
UAY 31st CONSOLIDATED  
COMPANIES LIMITED.  
The meeting will be held  
in accordance with the  
provisions of the Companies  
Act 1948 and the Articles  
of Association of the  
company. The Chairman of  
the meeting will be Mr. J. H.  
R. BATES, Official Receiver  
and Provisional Liquidator.  
London EC4N 3DF.

## LEGAL NOTICES

THE COMPANIES ACT 1948 in  
the Matter of GARTON SHIPPERS  
LIMITED  
Notice is hereby given that  
a meeting of the shareholders  
of the above-named company  
will be held at the offices of  
the company, 10, Abchurch  
Lane, London EC4N 3DF, on  
Monday, 24th January, 1977,  
at 10.00 a.m. for the purpose  
of considering and voting  
on the proposed amalgamation  
of the company with the  
company known as the  
GARTON SHIPPERS  
LIMITED.  
The meeting will be held  
in accordance with the  
provisions of the Companies  
Act 1948 and the Articles  
of Association of the  
company. The Chairman of  
the meeting will be Mr. J. H.  
R. BATES, Official Receiver  
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London EC4N 3DF.

## LEGAL NOTICES

No. 001450 of 1970  
THE COMPANIES ACT 1948 in  
the Matter of CHARTERED  
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of the above-named company  
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Bids will be opened on 2 March, 1977 at 4 p.m.

P. M. Hargreaves, Director.

## THE A. D. H. (BASTION HOUSE)

Notice is hereby given pursuant  
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company will be held at the  
offices of the company, 10, Abchurch  
Lane, London EC4N 3DF, on  
Monday, 24th January, 1977,  
at 10.00 a.m. for the purpose  
of considering and voting  
on the proposed amalgamation  
of the company with the  
company known as the  
A. D. H. (BASTION HOUSE).  
The meeting will be held  
in accordance with the  
provisions of the Companies  
Act 1948 and the Articles  
of Association of the  
company. The Chairman of  
the meeting will be Mr. J. H.  
R. BATES, Official Receiver  
and Provisional Liquidator.  
London EC4N 3DF.

## THE A. D. H. (BASTION HOUSE

# Dr Castro: a remarkable talent for survival in Soviet-dominated Cuba

# Dr Castro: a remarkable talent for survival in Soviet-dominated Cuba

PH

فَكَذَّبَ مِنَ الْأَوَّلِ

1

World, that Surinam  
is harboured Ashanti-  
"survivals" in their  
at the United States,  
or the Sea Islands off  
4, was devoid of Afri-  
cultural influence.  
now know differently.  
Angola influence on  
World art is at least as  
as Yoruba. Thus the  
tongo tobe charm for  
hunting, compounded  
of central earth and palm  
became, at Algiers,  
kna, the "Toby"  
for luck in gambling.

A contemporary reworking of old themes enlivens the work of such artists as Kikilomelo Oladipo and others. In Lagos, Nigeria, a black American painter, Charles E. Seawie, of Philadelphia, became inspired by the work of Olatunji. In Haiti the vogue for paintings with messages spread in the 1970s even to the decoration of buses. Today myriad painted signs live with the people. In the streets of the Creole community, adorned with murals, versions

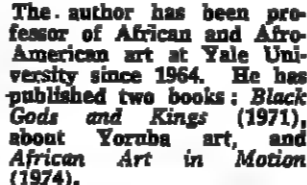
Meanwhile the music of the Spanish-speaking dance halls despoised with a new synthesis of black Cuban and black North American genres. The *son*, which on mainland can be arbitrarily selected, a composition called *Wampó*, played by the Larry Howard orchestra, the song *El Estudiante* by the black musician and bandleader an exquisite intertwining of black Cuban *Charanga* and black Cuban *Conjunto* violin and piano accompaniment quite without *trappings*, comes

creative music. Since 1968 they have made more than 15 long-playing records, many on the French Acropal label. In their works whole modes of black and other music are subjected to thoughtful recombination.

Just as the famous "Wall

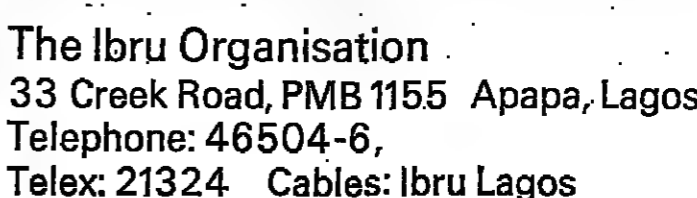
tem, in contrast to western symphonic building to grand climactic points, generally slower and slower, "like the fighters".

No work demonstrates more clearly the black classical aesthetic principle than in the extremes—fast, slow



The Organization of African Unity put on a cultural festival in Algiers in July, 1969. This was partly intended, and was certainly seen by President Senghor, as a rival to the Dakar festi-

horrified by the Algerian Nigerians' presence was so stark, although Senegalese performers enjoyed considerable success there. The gap which was exposed there between the two festivals played an important role in subsequent discussions between Senegalese and Nigerians, continued on next page



## Setting the stage

continued from previous page

And the number of scheduled participants was cut from 25,000 to 15,000. The number of guests to be financed by the Nigerian Government was also greatly reduced.

General Obasanjo, the head of state, said when opening the New National Theatre at the end of September that if the festival had not been postponed 10 times higher than that will now be spent without appreciable results due to poor planning and lack of funds.

Even now it is impossible to calculate what the total cost will be to Nigeria, except that it will run into tens of millions of Naira. It is true that the National Theatre, the special housing, the roads and the hotel accommodation will continue afterwards, but an inquiry into aspects of financing the festival has shown that opportunities for diversion of funds increased as the urgency to complete projects grew.

Thus the opulent Bulgarian-designed National Theatre was found by the inquiry to represent a financial commitment for the Government by the end of 1975 of N77.5m because of short cuts in procedures, hazy estimates and a combination of inefficiency and speculation. However, relatively small amounts were ordered to be returned by leading figures involved. The full report has not yet been published.

The streamlining of the festival, and the introduction of improved planning by the new commissioner, Commander O. P. Fingsi, did nothing to stop the deterioration in relations with the Senegalese. The reasons were complex: Senegal seemed to have taken on itself the task of voicing aspirations about Nigeria's size and wealth; early in 1976 Senegal and Nigeria were supporting different sides in Angola. There were also personality differences arising from the different cultural legacies of the French and British.

But the cause belli was Senegal's objection to the participation of Arab African countries in the colloquium on black civilization and education. The Nigerian argument was based on the introduction of "African" into the festival's title, because it did not wish to be seen dividing the Organization of African Unity.

Senegal's announcement of a boycott heralded an inflexible war of words, in which revealing reflexes surfaced. Le Soleil of Dakar wrote of Nigeria's "Fashodist spirit"

and sections of the Nigerian press denounced President Senghor as a black Frenchman and worse. President Senghor joined in by referring to Nigeria's use of oil as a big stick to beat small countries, and dismissing the Nigerian Government as having "not many cultural qualities".

However, his efforts to set up an alternative festival fell on stony ground: even in other francophone countries the response was poor. The Nigerians, realising that President Senghor would like to back down, sent the dramatist-poet Wole Soyinka to Dakar to make peace.

The cracks were thus plastered over and Senegal seems to have accepted Arab participation in the colloquium. Le Soleil detected a case of ashes, but it is far from clear what the Arab participation will be. The cultural links across the Sahara are historic and manifold, but most Arab African governments, not to mention those that straddle the desert, like Sudan and Mauritania, would probably prefer not to dwell officially on black civilization and education.

Thus the Nigerians suspect the Senegalese of indirectly voicing other apprehensions—that Lagos was going to be too political, especially since the Gueunians are to be there in force.

President Senghor has never quite been able to digest some of the radical implications of negritude, a concept that was actually born in the brutal racial vortex of the Caribbean in Haiti, and was taken up eloquently by the Martiniquais Aimé Césaire. The President popularized it and made it his own, and in the process altered it (some would say watered it down) with Teilhard de Chardin's theories of the "civilization of the universal".

The political content poses the less remains for those who care to see it: translated into English it becomes the "African personality" of Kwame Nkrumah, the "black power" of the United States, the "black consciousness" of Sojourner Truth.

Whatever the political tenor of the proceedings, and one has to see it as an event with serious political implications, Fesac has a Nigerian argument. It cannot fail to be a large and reasonably representative celebration of black culture from Papua New Guinea to Bolivia, 10 fruitful years after Dakar. Despite fears that Nigerian-style chaos may take over, it should be a memorable 29 days, worth all the delay and the heartache, and even worth suffering a Lagos traffic jam or two.

Some of the cultural activities included in the festival are discussed on this and the next two pages

## DANCE

## They got earthy rhythm

by Peggy Harper

Festac is staging dances from the black and African cultures of today. There will be dances evolved through generations to express the traditions of indigenous cultures and dances designed by choreographers for the contemporary theatre.

There are a few clearly recognizable elements to be seen in dance throughout the continent, south of the Sahara. They are echoed in styles of Asian dance but bear little relation to the styles traditional to the West.

Dancers express their ideas, attitudes and emotions by creating spatial and temporal patterns of movement. The endless variety of dance styles in the world are distinguished by two main factors: dances in which special patterns are emphasized and those in which the focus lies on patterns based on time elements.

Analysis of dance form reveals two basic spatial elements. The floor pattern marks the progress of the dancer from A to B, or the lack of progress as in the case of the Ky women performing the rough, one of the most elaborate team dances to be seen in West Africa, who remain fairly stationary. There are also the aerial patterns created by the postures and gestures of the dancers.

In western dance the emphasis is placed on those patterns in space. Western dancers draw their weight up through straight legs, into firmly erect bodies, as if from a central point, from which they move their limbs, bend, sway, jump and leap out into space. They create patterns by moving from one geometrically conceived position to the next. Western art is far more obsessed with geometric precision.

The formal emphasis in African dance is on the time element of rhythm. An African dance starts with a repetitive percussive pulse which develops into a rhythmic pattern of say, foot, shoulder or pelvic beats wedded to the musical rhythms of the accompanying orchestra. As a dancer gives his weight to the rhythmic pulse of the dance his movements repeatedly return to the earth, towards which his posture, gestures and often his attention is directed.

In his basic posture he carries his weight on the whole foot placed firmly on the earth, his knees are ever-

bending springs, his back rises strong and straight from the base of his spine up to the column of his neck, on which his head is easily poised. His shoulders are experienced as a separate element placed horizontally across the torso.

That stance is familiar in formal figures in African sculpture, in which the back is held erect. In dance the starting position is upright and may be so throughout the dance, or the back may incline forward at a slight or an extreme angle, to the extent of being held parallel to the earth, pitching the weight on to the balls of the feet, as in the Ifaw and Kalabari dances of Nigeria.

Those three postures, depending on the angle of the back, occur in dances throughout Africa. The use of the weight and the easily flexed knees allow for independent contractions of the pelvis, torso or shoulders, familiar in many styles of African dance.

Thus an African dancer accepts the weight of his body in rhythmic patterns of movement which express his close relation with the earth, in contrast to a western dancer, who is determinedly space-bound in his efforts to resist gravity.

Precision in African dances lies in the rhythmic discipline with which the dancer follows the dictates of the leading musical instrument. His ability is assessed on his skill to grasp the changes and nuances of the rhythm.

Within a framework of common basic elements there is an endless variety of form, creating on the musical rhythm, which may develop a complexity requiring a dancer to master three distinct rhythms simultaneously. The spatial shapes in African dance emerge from the rhythm to create a sculptural impression of movement, in which the dancer is not concerned with holding a series of exactly located positions but rather with moving through positions which are motivated by the rhythmic impetus of the dance.

Every member of an indigenous rural community belongs to a religious society, an age grade, possibly a working guild or a dance club, each with its specific styles of dance expressing the qualities expected of the group by their community.

Dance is a central element in ritual celebration and regalia ceremony. An Ashanti ruler in Ghana dances the

authority of his leadership and, should he lack the necessary skill, may forfeit the full respect of his subjects. The fetish priestesses of the Ga and the Yoruba priests who serve Sango, their god of Thunder, dance as an integral part of their office. Their gestures speak more vividly than words.

In dance we see a heightening of everyday movement abilities, which have been moulded by the physical environment and social history of a people. The ancestral masquerades of the Ishaan bless their descendants in acrobatic dances of spectacular leaping turns while the masquerades of the neighbouring Afemai use rapid foot patterns as they balance elaborate head masks.

In a rapidly changing society the underlying values of the culture are often more resilient to change than material factors. The arts which express these values retain their importance in the face of new technologies and forms of communication. As black and African people meet to identify and celebrate their common inheritance in terms of their arts, it is to be expected that the common values which have evolved through the centuries feature prominently and provide a basis to assess new works.

The Festac programme combines a rich and splendid variety of dances related by common functions and features that are recognizably African. However, there will be an inevitable adjustment of the traditional arts to modern technology in terms of presentation.

The dances will not be seen in their native context, in which a familiar audience creates an arena and partition of the re-enactment of their customs and values. They will be set on the formal stage of a modern theatre or stadium with a vast audience largely seated at a distance.

They have been rehearsed to eliminate repetitious and strictly local features in presenting a variety of spectacular elements for the appreciation of a cross-cultural audience. The formal stage and closely packed programmes impose conditions which radically affect the manner of presentation. Whether the dances will retain the essential elements expressive of their cultures will depend on the skill of

the dance leaders and the choice of dances.

A live tradition is never static and dances have continually changed to incorporate new elements in their society, under the guidance of talented artists. Over the past decade these changes have been accelerated by the organization of civic arts festivals as a popular feature of urban life, the promotion of national companies of neo-traditional dance to tour the world.

Many dance leaders are skilled in tailoring dances for unfamiliar audiences. Some styles are transformed to attain theatrical heights by finding a new role in an urban setting, with the accent on entertainment, as in the Elogwu dance of the Ibo. That applies to team dancing in unison, which identifies age groups in cultures throughout Africa.

At the Nigerian rehearsals for Festac in 1974 it became obvious that ritual dances, which are rooted in the sacrificial rites of communal festivals, seldom survive the abrupt change of role to entertainer-cum-cultural ambassador.

Several universities in West Africa sponsor professional theatre companies with a mandate for creating work in the full range of performing arts. That has encouraged experiment in dance drama using traditional techniques to convey a choreographic combination of movements from a wide range of cultures, without reference to their origin, as a springboard for creating theatrical dance forms. Myths and legends provide rich themes for these works which do not rule out the use of words or songs in a supportive role, as the strict specialization of theatre arts is foreign to an African audience.

The Festac theatre is mounting works in the tradition of the Oculi Saga of the Ijaws, or the spectacular Kwagh-hir story-telling dramatizations of the Ibibos, which have long combined the customary oral tradition with the delightful entertainment as a feature of village life.

Visitors will trace the transitions from the communal arts to the creations of the individual: from tradition through neo-tradition to the contemporary arts. The author is senior research fellow, Department of Dramatic Arts, and choreographer to the University of Ife theatre, Nigeria.



A Tutsi dancer of Rwanda.

## MUSIC

## The pulse of life

by Laz Nnanyelu Ekwueme

One of the strongest features of African music, in comparison with the music of the West, is its functionalism. Music plays a very significant role in the social life of the black man in Africa as well as the New World.

Music is present at the birth of a child in Africa and West Indian societies as the announcement is greeted with singing and dancing. It is ever-present in children's games and features in traditional folk tales in Africa, Haiti, Jamaica and the southern states of the United States.

The importance of music for the working black man cannot be exaggerated. In sugarcane plantations in the West Indies, on cotton farms, railways or prison chain gangs in the United States, or on ships at sea, music has been the means by which the black man has endured and survived the ordeals of years of slavery, forced labour and colonialism.

Music is indispensable in religious worship, whether it be Shango, Santería, Trinidad or Brazil, Voodoo (Vodun) in Dahomey, Togo or Haiti, Islam in Tanzania, Niger or Mali, or a version of spiritualist Christianity in South Africa, Zaire, Nigeria or among the blacks of the United States.

Music goes with healing. It is a common belief among many black communities that a physical ailment is a result of a moral offence or else the act of malevolent forces. In either case spiritual atonement has to be made involving the use of music.

Wake-keeping and funeral rites are prolonged affairs in Africa and among black communities in the New World. Music is ever-present at such rites.

There are many unifying theoretical features outstanding in the music of the black peoples of Africa and the New World. Melodic lines (following the tonal inflections of African languages) tend to move downwards after starting normally from a high point. The pentatonic scale is prominent in Zulu songs, Yoruba songs and many Negro spirituals. The neutral intervals tending to flatten some notes of the major scale in African folk tunes are replicated in the blue notes of American blues and jazz.

Characteristic features of African music include the parallel (organum style) singing of Africa and the New World, as well as the pedal drone on the lowest part, sometimes over an extended period. The antiphonal formal structure of call and response, well known in all black music, makes for easy audience participation, another characteristic feature. Polyrhythm and syncopation are outstanding rhythmic features of all black and black-influenced music. Percussive instrumentation (whether of drums or xylophones) is traditional in Africa and has given rise to such innovations as the steel band orchestra of the West Indies.

Several historical, cultural and technological factors have impinged on traditional African music, yielding the rather diffuse contemporary mixture of ethnic origins and backgrounds, subjecting them to mutual influences. Recreation in the evening for the working urban dweller became available in night clubs and dance halls, providing opportunities for young people to dance in close body contact with partners of the opposite sex, a practice that was taboo in many traditional societies.

Western technology introduced through radio and television into Africa. These became more readily accessible than the traditionally fashioned ones. Electronic amplification gave great popularity to such instruments as the electric guitar. Mass communication, itself a by-product of western technology, brought the music of other cultures into the homes of many Africans through radio and television records, tapes and films. It was particularly the mass media which brought the music of the black peoples of the New World back to Africa.

The effect of all the external forces on African music is multi-dimensional. There has emerged a strong school of African popular dance music. In West Africa the "Highlife" was born, in which traditional African rhythms are combined with Western European harmony, and African percussive instruments are used with factory-made precision instruments.

The spirit of jazz, which is rooted in African music, has returned to Africa with the "Highlife" was born, in which traditional African rhythms are combined with Western European harmony, and African percussive instruments are used with factory-made precision instruments.

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tern European sense)—than does Highlife music of West Africa. The use of the guitar has filtered down to the local café music of the region, so much so that even roadside bars where locally brewed beer and wine are sold have become spots for hearing songs accompanied by guitars and empty wine bottles.

Further south the new music known by such various names as Zulu jazz, South African jazz, and the local name *umqashiso* has made great international impact. Not only has it produced great musicals such as *King Kong*, *Azwa Zulu* and *Ipi Tombi*, but it has also given the world such internationally known artists as Miriam Makeba, Hugh Masekela, Todd Mankwana, Hilda Tioubatla and Thandi Nkosi.

Afro-rock is a term frequently used in contemporary African music. Manu Dibango, Osibisa, Fela Anikulapo-Kuti, and Victor Uwaifo are internationally famous in this new brand of African soul music. Each exponent has his own sound, but the general principle is the employment of western jazz instruments and harmonic principles in combination with some African percussion in a dance rhythm that treats African musical materials in American soul music style.

Contemporary African music is not all pop, however. A school of art musicians, educated in western conservatories, schools of music and universities has blossomed over the years in Africa.

The works of western-trained composers fall into four main categories. First, there is African material, including traditional folk tunes, arranged for western instruments. Second, African instruments used with western or other instruments. Third, abstract or semi-abstract compositions used as tone-poem expressions of African subjects or events. Fourth, there are free compositions in any idiom that may or may not use African materials.

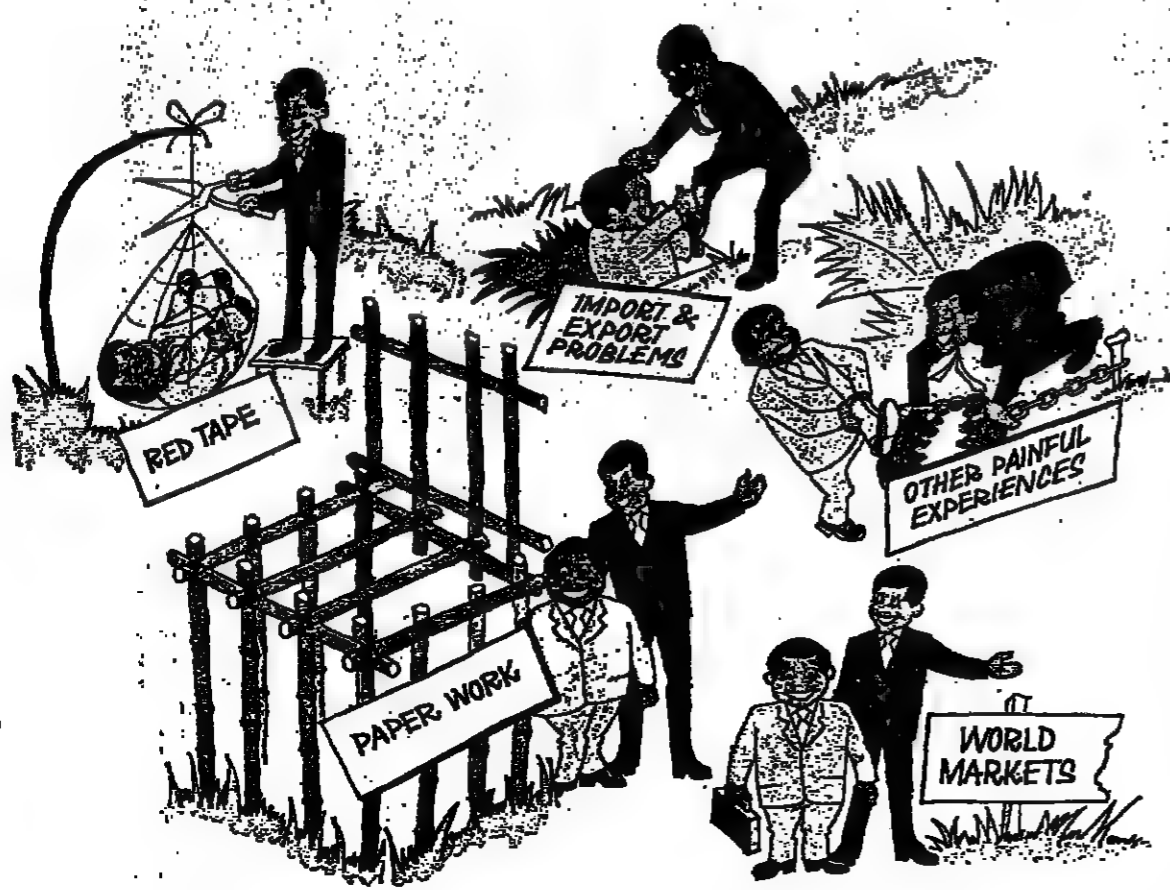
Through their experiments at composition in the western style contemporary African composers are after creating an art syn the dual cultural: of contemporary Africa from a folk music, the West has been noted calypso. Steel band development; all sorts of popular calypso d full symphonies. Music the West is recently taken a development of the a simple but unique beat that has been popular in Africa a the West.

The United States course, been known birthplace of bit jazz, the secular parts of spiritus Gospel music whi thrived among bla in the United Stat slavery. Rhythm u led from jazz to roc giving birth to a signal crises as the and has today gr what is known as so. In addition to the lar styles of musi American and Wes composers have by their closer contact European race del into western art mu ducing intern famous conductor posers and perform More than Afric pover, art musician New World have been by contempo experimental techni western musical com Music in Africa black world today s same functional an roles it has always It has retained man vibrant qualities unique characterist reference to form, harmony, rhythm, in tation, performance niques, and general tics. It is also yiel the forces of change can music adapts conditors.

The author is assoc fessor and head Department of Musi University. He is a and singer, and dir own choir in Lagos.

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DRAMA

# Commitment to nationalist ideals

Michael Etherton

ny people in Britain, theatre is summed up as commercial musicals. 'Tombs or the Ballet', shows especially other for the western in Africa the theatre is more by the pub-play texts, usually ad occasionally seen as a core of the many performances of id or another. They include traditional and masquerades, musicals, as well as tely staged intellectual about the problem of Africans today aspirations in the Africa.

ad all this has a wide of highly theatre 'music entertainment', which will not be at Festac. However, the work of the African playwrights on the influence of contemporary popular and may even ledge it.

if the roads of West and will pass wagons belonging to a party, proceeding the late, loaded with props, stages and a squashed in the next small the evening's per- Travel in East and you may meet verity bus and the department bus carrying students and staff from village to village, for two, and funk performances participants, both and audience, come all social levels; and performed are con- with all sections of the society.

For example, the ginning Arts Company, nadin Bello University, has brought together all levels of edu- attainment to pre- sents and dance-dramas ely different audi- On the other hand, Hubert Ogunde theatre company of his unity, performing in for nearly 30 years, aging all classes of s together as he and unity travel round African countries have popular theatres. Lively parties, with impro- plays, catchy music two-beat urban style, leaders of West African societies. In Africa, talented Ugan- and Kenyans have independent com- for example, Nawa- ga's company in

Uganda, to present more complex and structured popular theatre.

In Zambia and Tanzania, popular drama is actively de- veloped through amateur groups, for example in fac- tories or cooperatives, or through clubs formed for that purpose. These plays seldom get published and are often looked down on by the intellectual elite, par- ticularly in the universities.

Nevertheless, live theatre in Africa is genuinely class- less. In fact, the concern is to keep audiences down to a manageable size, no matter whether the play is per- formed in the town or in the country. The police are often on hand to curb the zeal and awe about the prize of those deter- mined not to be excluded. People are happy to come to a play, provided it is about a recognisable milieu and in a language they can under- stand.

This wide interest in the popular, travelling theatre is greater than in the corpus of published drama, but the intellectual debate about the nature of African theatre is more often based on the pub- lished texts.

Despite the relevant con- tent, the intellectual play- text has its roots in an inter- national literary form—and the content is all too fre- quently subjected to the 'form'—while the popular drama has its roots in the arts of community perfor- mance. For most African societies are still closer to the notion of community participation in performance than to theatre as a middle class - based commercial enterprise.

Theatre is a vital part of the festival calendar of most African societies. The Is- lamic societies of the Sahel and the Hausa emirates have rich pageants and specta- cular equestrian perfor- mances at Sallah, while round the fringes the melting crowd is entertained by strolling players with music, wit and drama. African religious dramas elaborate the rituals evoking the spirits of ancestors. Christianity, colo- nialism and urban develop- ment has generated throu- out East Africa dances, like the Bani which present satirical comment on new and strange social behav- iour.

Popular contemporary theatre may have moved away from traditional per- formance as far as content is concerned; but the form of actor and audience ex- change remains unbroken. Paradoxically, the intellectual theatre is heavily subsidised.

The only commercial theatre is the popular com- munity theatre, which has to reach a wider audience to make it pay. They have to travel. As the Zambian

playwright Kabwe Kasoma says: "Theatre has to go to the people and not expect the people to come to it". African theatre is not yet a metropolitan theatre.

A number of these popu- lar playwrights who tour with their companies also per- form on television. Media drama, first for radio and then more for television, has encouraged the development of improvised plays in local languages alongside the more conventional scripted in En- glish or French.

The film is not good, but despite—or perhaps be- cause of—the rough edges, this local domestic comedy is objective about, and critical of, values and obsessions. In transferring directly from the live stage, it keeps its im- aginative spontaneity.

Where this improvised work has been intellectually extended, it provides a rich new drama. In Tanzania, for example, there has been a consistent effort to carry practical and professional work by theatre arts gradu- ates into the Ujamaa villages and the factories. One out- come of this is the work of Mukotani Ruyendo, who, in a collection of plays short- ly to be published, has attempted to present directly to Tanzanians the difficulties of rural development.

This sort of work has been carried further by the *Laodze Butani* movement in Botswana: "community awakening", as it translates, aims to use the concept of village theatre to bring the community together to identify and articulate local problems and suggest poten- tial solutions through the drama.

Village theatre is the pro- cess by which village groups come together for a couple of days and make a play about their own preoccupa- tions with the help of pro- fessional dramatists (not necessarily publishing writers) and community workers. Their basic tech- niques involve the use of tra- ditional forms such as music, dance, story-telling, mas- querades, puppetry and improvisation to develop dialogue drama about con- temporary situations.

Another extension, this time political, of this work is the use of village theatre by the Frelimo forces in Mozam- bique to awaken people to the difficulties and respon- sibilities of independence.

From this it is clear that African improvisation can produce a drama, even a scripted drama, which is per- ceptive, critical and human- ous. As a technique it allows all sorts of talented people to make their contribution, and it can be merged with traditional music and dance to make these elements rel- evant today.

Despite this, some serious playwrights are moving away from this type of theatre, abandoning it in favour of the literary play-text, which is seen as a more suitable vehicle for personal intro- spective and social abstrac- tions. The use of African languages and the urban patois tends, therefore, to be restricted to the performing theatre groups. Despite con- siderable resentment because of the colonial implications and pan-African resolutions to the contrary, English and French continue to be the languages used for intellec- tual theatre.

On the whole, the develop- ing theatre in Africa is com- mitted to the nationalist ideals of the new African states. A play from a black South African would be ex- pected to call for the revo- lutionary overthrow of the Afrikaner regime but a play from Uganda would not be expected to be critical of Amin-ruled Uganda. Yet in Uganda, before President Amin, plays were written by Africans and Asians which were critical of racist be- haviour there.

Such criticism conformed with the national ideology then, but even that sort of criticism is not now voiced—except by Soyinka and his Transition/Chi'Nkaba group.

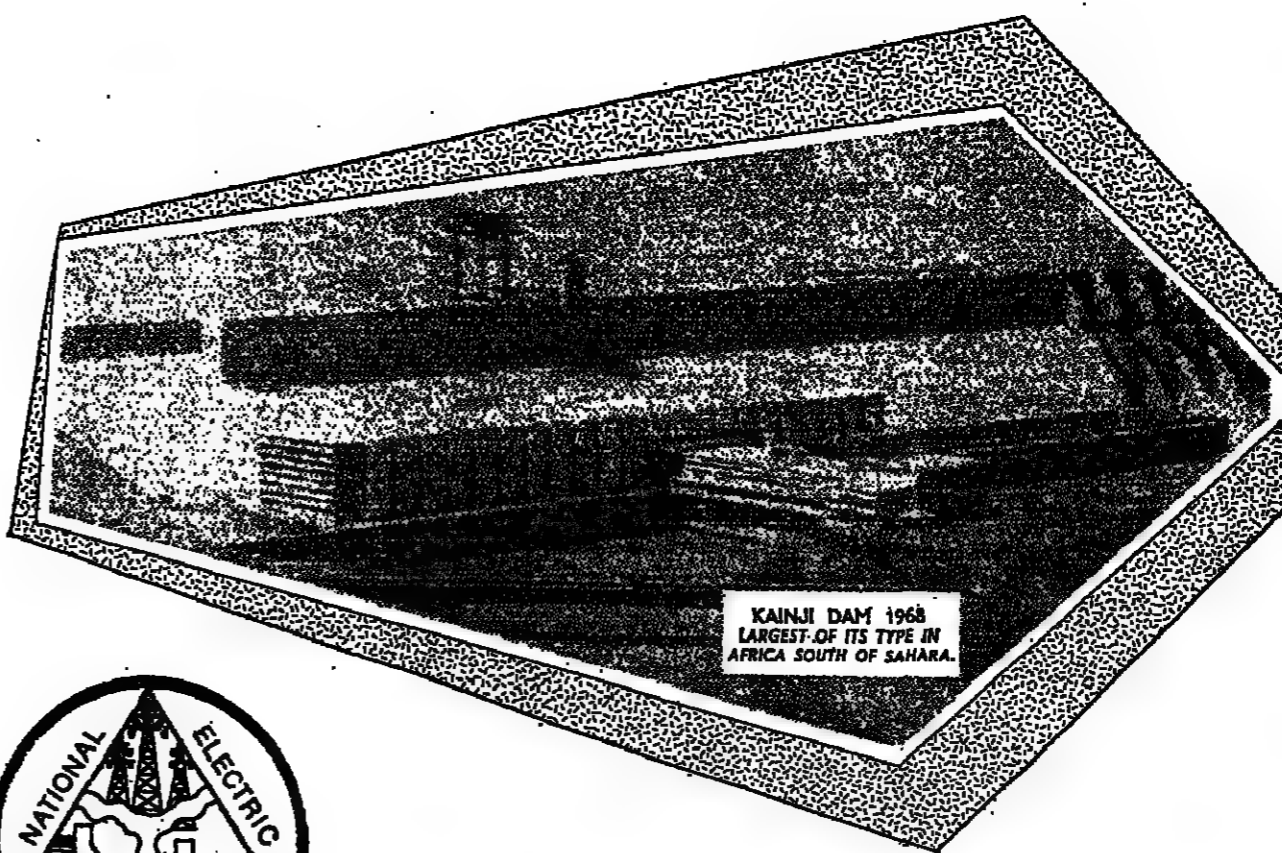
Mr. Soyinka has consis- tently criticised the new nation-state when it has threatened the basic rights of individuals, and he has suffered for his actions. So have some popular African dramatists: Hubert Ogunde's plays and records were banned for two years before the Nigerian civil war and the Kasoma trilogy on the life of Kenneth Kaunda was banned. Both were shocked, Mr. Kasoma especially, for he had seen himself as fully supporting President, Gov- ernment and party.

Playwrights and profes- sionals generally support the ideology of national unity and the forging of a national cultural identity, and such criticism as they offer is towards this end. National governments, however, tend to see any criticism as a threat and they attempt to suppress it.

So how do countries and their governments choose their best drama for Festac? The process probably ex- cludes that which is critical and the local community drama in favour of the international African theatre, substance in favour of tech- nical proficiency.

The author is senior lec- turer and head of drama at Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Nigeria. He is editor of Heinemann Educational Books' African Plays for Playing.

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VISUAL ARTS

## Traditions survive

Michael Crowder

artistic heritage is thought of in terms of res created in pre- times, of which the cent Benin ivory pe- nak chosen as the of the festival is a e example. In so as African art has world attention it is of the influence on European artists and Braucous of tradi- masks or the high fetched nowadays by bronzes and Senufo, and Fang wood-sculp- n the sale rooms of and America.

contemporary art of Africa, created during ce the colonial period, eived fairly scant at- outside the continent, y few modern Afri- ans have gained inter- l recognition such as njoyed by writers like d Sédar Senghor, Wole a, Mongo Beti, Chinua a, or Neugi wa 'thongo. t, as the exhibition of art at the first festi- id in Dakar in 1968, a largely unsuspect- ternational audience, re a number of Afri- artists with similar al to these writers.

exhibition of fine art just how far this ad has been realized he past 10 years. It e dominated by the f artists who have had, largely western-style s. Yet the average visi- the capitals of African will see little, if any, of this art unless he s on it in a public g- ery in the foyer of el. Rather, his lecting ol of modern African ily to be of the dis- of polished ebony gracefully carved ante- romatic paintings of ees and canoes mixed acely carved "anti- " or Benin bronzes hot e furnace, that are to id in every big airport.

stic activity in Africa ranges far beyond the of the school-trained Indeed, it is one of the laces that the so-called onal artist in Africa is of the past. True, the ular spread of Christ- and Islam since the in- a of colonial rule en- a rapid decline in both mber of preceding art- and their output; but ir extinction.

ny Africans still prac- their traditional re- and cult objects are by termites, broken or for the international

antiquities market and have to be replaced. Furthermore, the tourist trade provides an outlet for copies of tradi- tional sculptures whether sold as such as at the Abid- jan Museum or masquerad- ing as the real thing. How- ever, by and large the work of traditional artists has de- clined both in quantity and quality as a result of the European conquest at the end of the nineteenth cen- tury.

Many of those who would have worked for the tradi- tional market are exclu- sively preoccupied with production for the new tourist trade. Nowhere is this changeover more dra- matically illustrated than in Benin, where the brass- work artists who once pro- ceed almost solely for the Oba's palace now do so almost solely for the growing tourist market. Most tourists re- turn home with an "authen- tic" African souvenir whether it be a Benin bronze or a Bambara antelope mask copied from the originals or a piece representative of the new genres of tourist art.

Behind this tourist art lies a vigorous popular art, often created by the same men. Bars have to be painted with murals, arresting shop-signs designed, and lorries illu- minated with heraldic lions or, most recently, combats engaged in kung-fu. This popular art, often of high originality, is the prin- cipal contact most Africans have with art created exclu- sively for decorative and aesthetic effect as distinct from ritual purposes. As in the western world the gal- lery-going population is restricted to a small elite.

The work of the African artist who produces indi- vidual paintings and sculp- tures for sale in art galleries by private treaty can be divided into two main cate- gories: that of the school- trained and that of the so- called untutored artist. By and large the former look down on the latter group, even though their work has obtained a wider inter- national audience.

The phenomenon of the untutored contemporary ar- tist is widely spread in black Africa. It results from the establishment of a series of art workshops by expatriates anxious to harness the artis- tic talent manifested in the traditional arts of Africa to new modes and forms of expression without, as Frank McEwen, director of the Salisbury Workshop, put it, imposing on pupils the "cor- rupting" influences of wes- tern art schools and permit-

ting them to express their in- nate African qualities.

The earliest to establish this type of teaching was Kenneth Murray at Govern- ment College Unwanke in the 1930s where students were not initiated into per- spective and proportion but were encouraged to draw their inspiration from indi- genous crafts and traditions which he believed was the only way whereby a truly contemporary Nigerian art would evolve.

Workshops at which stan- dard western art-teaching methods were eschewed and where the supervisors just provided the materials and instructed pupils in the tech- niques of mixing paint or making prints were estab- lished in Lubumbashi in 1944 by Pierre Romain- Desfosses, Cyrene in Rho- desia by the Rev. Edward Paterson in 1939, Poto-Poto in Brazzaville by Pierre Lods in 1951, McEwen in Salisbury and Ulli Beier, not himself an artist, in Oshogbo in the 1950s.

Some of the products of these workshops have enjoyed considerable inter- national success.

Even more remarkable have been the stylistic simi- larities between the artists supervised by Beier's wife Georgina in Oshogbo and those she subsequently grouped around her in Papua New Guinea. Finally, it is clear that many of these untutored artists have in- deed been influenced by the work of their supervisors and most of them have had access to western art books. Sadly, once their supervisors have left, little development has been noticeable in the majority of their work.

Few artists produced by these workshops have sub- sequently undergone formal art training. Ben Enwonwu, who first practised art under Murray and then won a scholarship to the Slade, is a notable exception. His paintings and sculptures show all the skill one would expect of a graduate of that school and he is one of few modern African artists with an international reputation.

The great majority of practising artists who are exhibiting in Lagos were trained at one of the uni- versity-level art schools which were founded or up- graded during the 1950s and 1960s: the most notable are to be found in Zaria, North- ern Nigeria; Khartoum, Addis Ababa; Makerere, Kumasi; and Dakar. All these schools have given their students courses in the basic principles of western

art, but either through the vision of their directors or as a result of protest by their students they have increas- ingly tried to respond to the special cultural circum- stances of the African student.

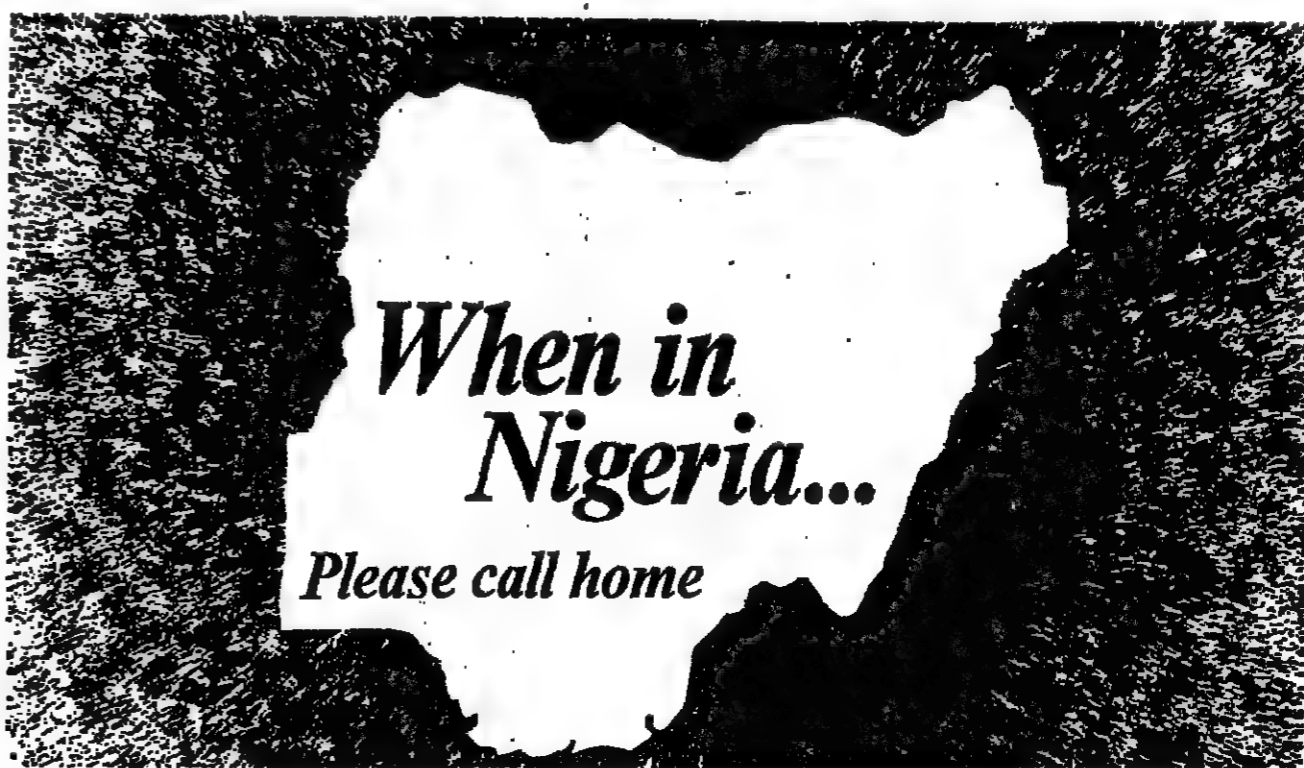
While many of the pro- ducts of their schools emerge as competent draughtsmen or designers with little to dis- tinguish them from their western counterparts, the more talented have come out with styles and themes that are recognizably African without being eclectic with regard to traditional art.

None of these schools has a pervading style, as do the workshops. One can, how- ever, detect in some of them periods when a particular teacher was influential. But with a range of different teachers at any one time, and frequent changes of staff, uniformity of approach has not generally been any more of a problem than in the average western art school. One only has to com- pare the work of Karamba's most famous products, Ahmed Mohamed Shibrain and Ibrahim es Salahi, who is perhaps the finest of Afri- can contemporary artists, to see how different their approach is.

This diversity within one school is even more strik- ingly illustrated by the work of that cluster of talent that graduated from the Zaria school in the 1950s: the late Uche Okeke, Yusuf Grillo, Demas Nwoko, Simon Okeke, Bruce Osoforokpeya and Jimoh Akolo, each of whom has his own very individual style, and each his own themes. Nor can one easily perceive any overall theme in the work of contemporary African artists. The style and preoccupations of the sculptures of Vincent Kofi from Ghana are very differ- ent from those of his Ivory Coast neighbour Christian Lattier.

What does characterize the best of contemporary African art is its vigour and fresh- ness, its mood of exploration, its refusal to be tied down by contemporary western fashion. Only when it is con- sciously eclectic, seeking to declare itself African by using ill-digested traditional motifs, does it become trite and fall into the category of superior tourist art.

The author is visiting pro- fessor in the Centre for Cultural Studies at the Uni- versity of Lagos. In 1966 he was a member of the Jury for Fine Art at the First World Festival of Negro Arts in Dakar.



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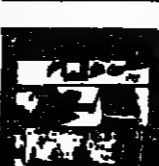
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## Onerous role as host and participant

by Michael Crowder

At the first world festival of Negro Arts held in Dakar, Nigeria occupied a special position. Now, in 1977, it again occupies a special, and very onerous, position in the second festival as host country. As such its contribution to the festival is on a very different and much larger scale than that of the other countries participating.

First of all Nigeria is providing the services for a festival conceived on a scale that makes the Dakar festival look like a country fete by comparison. However important Nigeria's artistic contribution to the festival may be, its success will be largely

judged both within and outside the country by the quality of the facilities and organization it provides.

Nigeria is making a second, and exceptional, contribution to the festival in the fringe events that are taking place in Lagos and elsewhere with both official and unofficial sponsorship. Finally, Nigeria will, of course, be participating fully in all the scheduled events of the festival.

The facilities provided by Nigeria for the festival centre on two large projects: the huge multi-purpose National Theatre and the festival village, appropriately described as a new town, which will house the

thousands of participants expected from all over the world. Delays in completion of these two projects were principally responsible for the postponement of the festival.

The National Theatre, which can seat 5,000, has given it quick access to the ancillary facilities of a cinema, conference halls and seminar rooms, exhibition galleries and offices for the festival secretariat. The theatre is the new centre of the festival where nearly all the official events, including the colloquium on black civilization and education, are taking place.

Based on a Bulgarian prototype, and indeed built by the Bulgarians, the National

Theatre, with its striking profile, will be as much a permanent memorial to the festival for Lagosians as the Musée Dynamique was for Dakar.

The festival village, located on the new expressway from Lagos to Badagry, which gives it quick access to the National Theatre in an otherwise traffic-jammed Lagos, is housing official participants in the festival in everything from low-cost apartment blocks to elegant detached houses. For while

Dakar was just able to cope with visitors and participants within its available hotel and school dormitory space in 1966, Lagos hotel accommodation is as scarce as in that other oil-boom city, Tehran.

Appeals have been made to Nigerian families to offer accommodation to visitors to take up the expected overflow from hotels, while the University of Lagos has scheduled its vacation for the festival so that its hostel accommodation can be released. After the festival the village will be available to Lagosians and will be helping to relieve the acute accommodation problem of one of the fastest growing cities in the world.

Apart from providing the facilities for the festival, Nigeria has had to recruit and train an army of festival officials ranging from lighting technicians able to handle the complex dimmer boards of the National Theatre to bilingual secretaries. In a burgeoning oil economy where every skill, including that of the driver and waiter, is at a premium, this has been a daunting task for the organizers.

Estimates of the number of visitors who will come to Lagos for the festival vary. What is certain is that, as at Dakar, not all of them will be able to see every official dramatic event in the festival. Conscious of this problem, Nigeria is staging several big spectacles outside the official framework of national participation that can be seen by all who wish to do so.

In Lagos a regatta of 2,000 boats drawn from eight of the 19 states of the federation will pass along the picturesque Five Cowries Creek. Mingled together in a variety of traditional craft, all gaily decked for the occasion, will be fishermen from the Niger and the creeks of its delta and from the Great Lagos Lagoon at the Atlantic seaboard.

No less spectacular will be the land-borne durbar of 2,400 horses, camels and riders at Kaduna. A hotel and stadium have been built to accommodate visitors to this great display of the culture of the old Sudanese states of the savannah, where the horse was vital both for communication and for military purposes.

The horses and riders, caparisoned in a variety of costumes and trappings, will be led by their traditional rulers and accompanied by dancers, drummers, musicians and acrobats. As a display of traditional pagantry the durbar of northern Nigeria have no equal in black Africa.

Visitors prepared to strike farther afield than Kaduna can attend the famous Argungu Fishing Festival in the far north-west of Nigeria or the Odum festival, being sponsored by the Rivers State Government in Port Harcourt. In the festival capital itself, there will be regular displays of traditional dances drawn from the 19 states of the federation and selected after a year's exhaustive state-by-state inventory of the country's choreographic resources. At the Nigerian Museum a

special exhibition of 2,000 Years of Nigeria's Art, History and Culture is being organized.

Apart from the official festival there will be an unofficial one of plays, films, folk operas and exhibitions specially mounted to take advantage of the presence of an international audience and staged in the normal course of events for Lagosians. And every night those who have caught the festival mood can dance in one of the nightclubs to be found in almost every corner of the city to the now traditional Highlife or the more recent Afro-rock.

The festival has also been the occasion for the publication of a number of books and records relating to Nigerian culture. Some, like the *Anthology of African Writing*, edited by the novelist, Cyprian Ekwensi, and the recordings of Nigerian traditional music, are officially sponsored. Others have been the result of private initiative: Longman and the University of Lagos have published a symposium on the city of Lagos; Mobil in association with Nelson has produced a beautifully illustrated volume on *The Living Culture of Nigeria*, while all

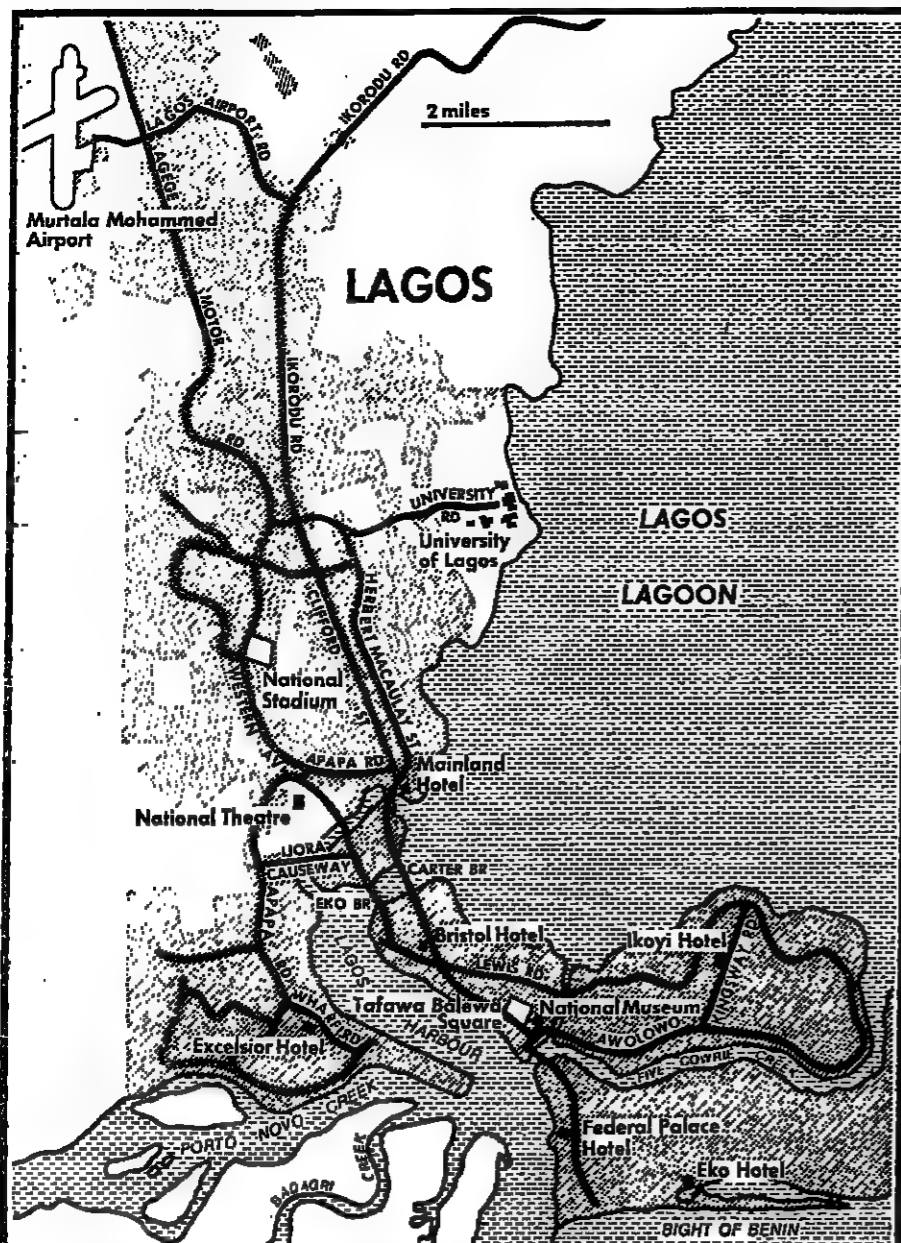
Decca is producing one record of songs by Joy Nwosu, the versatile young Nigerian singer, entitled *Azania* — a tribute to the struggle for freedom by black South Africans.

As far as its participation in the festival itself is concerned, Nigeria, with the largest black population of any country, is treated on the same basis as The Gambia or Gabon. With so rich and diverse a traditional cultural heritage, and such variety and talent among its contemporary artists and writers, selection for the various events has been extremely difficult.

Only three traditional dance groups can be presented out of the 100 or more seen at the festival of traditional dances held in Kaduna in December, 1974. For every event the selectors of the National Participation Committee have been confronted by an *embarras de richesses*. Naturally some of their decisions have provoked angry outbursts, some of which have reached the pages of the national press. But it is difficult to see how any body of selectors, with so much variety and talent at its disposal could please

Nigeria's major presentation will be *Ibodo*, a musical play by the prolific young playwright Wale Ogunyemi based on the *Forest of a Thousand* by the Yoruba novel D. O. Fagunwa. In a story of dance-drama that has been well pioneered in Nigeria, choreographer and painter, sculptor, choreographer and

Two important films are being shown in Nigeria for the first time, *Shelwa Umer*, on the novel by Prime Minister of Sir Abubakar Tafawa Balewa, and *Haussa*, the lingua franca of the north. The second, *Oso Nigbo*, based on a 27-year-old civil war in the view of Nigeria, is a request for from the British M the Benin ivory mask which is the symbol, for it is, defeat and exile of independent Oba of the British, who town and looted treasures, including



Map of Lagos showing the venues of main events.

The articles in the following section of this report examine artistic and cultural progress in some black communities represented at the festival

## Brazil: example of ambivalence

by Jan Rocha

Brazil's contribution to the Lagos black arts festival is a good example of the country's ambivalent attitude to its population of African descent. While the United States and the combined Caribbean countries are each sending over large contingents, Brazil, the largest country in the western hemisphere with the largest population of African descent — at least half the 110 million Brazilians are black or coloured — is sending a mere handful of participants.

Almost the entire Brazilian entry is concentrated in one area — plastic arts. The work of 14 artists is on show in an exhibition, the impact of African culture in Brazil. But the official stand-out admission: "They do not always present themes of African or Negro origin, although they always express the high level of the Negro element's contribution to the plastic arts in Brazil."

Such is the case of Francisco Riquelme, Guaraní, 90 years old, who has spent his life carving the ornate figureheads of sailing boats that ply up and down the São Francisco river; or of the reproduction of the works of Brazil's most famous sculptor of the baroque era, Aleijadinho, a mulettto crippled by leprosy who filled the eighteenth-century churches of Minas Gerais with dramatic carvings of Christ, prophets, saints and angels.

Manoel de Costa Athaide, another eighteenth-century artist on show at Lagos, painted black angels and saints. The works of two white artists have been included. The sculptor Carybe from Salvador was specially invited by the Nigerian Government and 27 of his *Orixás* (Afro-Brazilian cult gods) sculptures in wood are being shown.

The other is one of Brazil's greatest painters, the late Cândido Portinari, who featured the Negro in many of his paintings. The Brazilian pavilion also includes exhibitions on aspects of the African in Brazil.

Among Brazilian contributions to the colloquium is Fernando Augusto de Albuquerque Mourao's paper on Africa and the formation of Brazilian thinking: the role of education.

In the music section, Brazil has two entries. One is singer Gilberto Gil, who says he would have gone to Lagos anyway "because I have a great desire to intensify my cultural links with Africa, to make them physical." Afro-Brazilian music, a selection of young black poets and writers, documents on the existence of black press in São Paulo in the first years of the century, papers on *Reflexions of the African independence movements in Brazil*. The Negro intelligentsia in São Paulo and studies on slavery. However they were rejected.

There is a belief in these circles that there is not much interest in encouraging manifestations of Afro-Brazilian culture because

they run contrary to the official view that Brazil, in spite of appearances, is basically a white country. The continuing process of racial miscegenation, so the official theory goes, is eliminating the purely Negro part of the population in favour of a mulatto and, eventually, white population. "The presence of whites is evidence," says a document prepared by the Foreign Ministry for the festival, "which is why even the mulatto who has some Negro or Indian blood, whether a lot or a little, but does not present the physical appearance of these groups, is considered white. This testifies to the absence of any discrimination of a racial nature as to the ethnic origin of the person."

Elsewhere it quotes a study which affirmed that already in 1933, it was almost certain that pure Negroes no longer existed in Brazil, except for possible centenarians from the end of the slave period or their rare descendants. An estimated five million to six million slaves entered Brazil during three and a half centuries of slave traffic. They came from all over Africa, wherever Portuguese slavers penetrated, but the main contingents were Yorubas, Hausas and Ashantis from the west coast, and Bantu from what is now Angola and Congo.

The slaves were brought at first to work in the sugar plantations of the northeast, but they soon spread throughout Brazil to work in goldmines, coffee and cotton plantations, and as domestic servants in the towns. The slave was not just an unskilled hand: many introduced into Brazil skills and trades learnt in their own tribes and towns. There were goldsmiths, blacksmiths, carpenters, stonemasons, cattle breeders, barbers and dentists.

Every Brazilian schoolchild learns that slavery was finally abolished in Brazil by the white rulers of the time, in 1888. But the long history of slave revolts and the abolition of scores of *quilombos* or free territories is largely ignored. The most famous *quilombo*, Palmares, occupied almost all the area that is now the state of Alagoas, and resisted repeated white attacks for 30 years until it was finally over-run and destroyed in 1695.

Slaves also fought alongside the whites against the Dutch invasion in the seventeenth century, for independence against the Portuguese in the eighteenth century and in the war against Paraguay in the nineteenth century.

Mixtures of Negroes and mulattos recognized for their bravery, took part in all the important moments of Brazilian history. But when slavery was finally abolished in 1888 the ex-slaves were abandoned, while European immigrants poured into the country to take the new-paid jobs in the fields and incipient industry.

Slavery had ended but Brazilian society, anxiously encouraging white immigration, had little place for the ex-slaves. Handicapped by their lack of economic and social status, black Brazilians are hard to find among the middle-class professions or in politics.

There is no doubt that black Africa is loomed ever larger on the horizon as an influence on Brazilian blacks. This is partly a result of Brazil's own foreign policy: the new African countries and their need for the sort of tropical technology and manufactured goods that Brazil can supply have made it a priority area over the past three years. A steady stream of African ministers

and missions has made its way to Brasilia. Brazil's right wing military government even struck its neck right against the MPLA government on the day Angolan independence was declared.

Second, the emancipation of Portuguese-speaking countries like Angola and Mozambique has struck a chord among Brazilians of African descent. Seeing their black leaders moving on equal terms with other world leaders, how can Brazilian blacks not feel impatient about their own inferior position in Brazilian society? This sort of feeling is, however, yet achieved any political expression but there is a timid, yet growing, reaction against the deformation of black culture and black experience by the whites.

A recent film, *Nica da Silva*, was lambasted by

black sociologists for presenting a romanticized view of slavery — the Negro as a passive, grateful slave, and the whites as complacent and good-natured. The film, based on fact, tells the story of a slave girl who achieved power and wealth through her extraordinary sexual prowess.

In Rio a group calling itself *Quilombos* has been formed to resist the degradation of what its members see as Afro-Brazilians' greatest wealth — their culture. Samba, the martial art of *capoeira*, and other black arts have been transformed into tourist attractions. Carnival, from a genuinely popular festival has become a show business spectacle organized by a government agency to attract dollar-spending tourists to Rio. In just one year the group has attracted a mass mem-

bership, including Rio's stardom, produced two long plays and spread an interest in a return to more authentic Afro-Brazilian cultural expressions.

Using the same argument, but choosing a very different road, is another movement known as Black Rio. Centred around American Negro soul music, it is seeping into Rio's working class north zone. "Soul satisfies the need that commercialized samba can no longer fulfil," an adept explained.

Thousands of young Brazilians dance to the music of groups with names like Soul Grand Prix, Boot Power, Arte Negra, on open-air basketball courts. They wear colourful crazy gear, their Afro hair styles are tinged orange and red, they use special handshakes. And they are all black.

In an interview São Paulo magazine the movement's lights, Astúdio de Balavea, said they were fighting the stereotype of Brazilian Negro, the cult of the beautiful show business.

Senhor Oliveira 1 to explain: "The intention of being towards whites — a notion of negritude imply conflict. We in the American his pride in the be characteristics of our This new pride black is inevitably grow with the African sense on Brazil. It will mean that at a wear and accept and take being a largely nation instead of that most Brazilians ing to be whites.

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## Senegal: proclaiming negritude

by Abdou Cissé

In the wake of a press conference in Dakar last August, at which M. Alioune Sane, Minister of Culture, announced that, after all, "Senegal will go to Lagos", betting was open on whether he would last long in his job. But that was more a matter of morbid speculation about the fate of a minister's head than real interest in the issue.

Not having followed, or having got lost in, the vicissitudes of the Second World Festival of Black Arts and Letters, the punters simply failed to grasp that it was the President of the Republic, honorary chairman of the forthcoming gathering, who was speaking through the minister, and that Senegal's participation in the event was an affair of state and not the exclusive province of a mere Cabinet member.

Indeed, interest in the festival has always been more or less limited to those directly concerned, a small group of establishment artists and writers, Ministry of Culture officials and bandwagons. If there is one person who is particularly aware of this, it is President Senghor himself, who declared, on his return from his annual holiday in Normandy in mid-September: "I think that Senegalese public opinion is simply not very enlightened and that we have not gone into the details" about the festival.

The most edifying detail so far voiced by non-Senghorians alone, shipped out in the same statement: "This is to be a festival of negritude." For the first time the main bone of contention was laid bare.

The difference arose because our Nigerian brothers wanted to turn this world festival of Negro arts into a pan-African festival, the statement said. "We said no. The Pan-African Festival is organized by the Organization of African Unity and it is in effect, a manifestation of Africanness, with its dual aspect of Arabness and negritude. But this is to be a festival of negritude."

It is certainly a good thing to invite our Arab brothers to take part in the event, but as for the symposium, which is to discuss Negro culture, it is only natural that it should be confined to black people, black people discussing among themselves, which all the Arab comrades, with a couple of exceptions, have very well understood.

So we said that if this rule were respected, that is that the symposium be re-

stricted to black people, we would take part in the festival, otherwise not. The Nigerian Government has assured us that at the symposium it will be black people and black people only, who will be discussing black civilization and education. And we have no reason to doubt the word of Nigeria.

"I even have every reason to believe that the Nigerian Government will keep its word, but if it breaks it, we shall simply withdraw. But as I have already said, I am not going to inflict upon Nigeria the insult of doubting it."

President Senghor earlier disclosed a concession his side had made to the other side: "We have allowed them to change the English title but the title has not changed in French. It is and remains the Festival Mondial des Arts Nègres."

At first sight, the scales seem weighted in favour of President Senghor in this quarrel. The Second Congress of Black Writers, held in Rome in 1959, had, among other things, resolved that a World Festival of Black Arts and Letters should be organized periodically to take stock of black achievements, reaffirm the values underlying black civilization and set some guidelines for the future.

Only two former colonies had, at that time, won their independence, Ghana and Guinea.

Following in the footsteps of men like Edward Wilmot Blyden, George Padmore and Marcus Garvey, Léopold Sédar Senghor, Aimé Césaire and Léon-Gontran Damas had made a name for themselves, particularly among the French intelligentsia, by questioning the alleged superiority of white culture and civilization.

Today, although he admits in private that negritude badly needs updating, President Senghor cannot accept an open challenge to the philosophy which is the cornerstone of his literary and political career. Hence the succession, in Dakar, of conferences on negritude, and the attacks and sometimes surprisingly petty revenge taken against anyone or any event, such as the Algiers Pan-African Festival, considered as a threat to his cultural hegemony.

Hence, too, his successful courting of renowned opponents, such as Wole Soyinka who, during the first festival in 1966, coined the most biting condemnation of negritude: "The tiger doesn't proclaim its dignity; it leaps."

Only fairly late in his literary career has President Senghor's poetry and writ-

ings reflected such concepts as Arabness—a sign of the times, no doubt. One can therefore well understand his repugnance at the idea of others—African Arabs, that is—defining what lies at the heart of his philosophy, on the basis of their own precepts and not on his.

President Senghor and General Olusegun Obasanjo, of Nigeria, have done more than just exchange messages. They have met at a date and place unspecified in the communiqué, but probably when President Senghor, under threat of isolation from traditional West African friends, hastened to Lagos for the second summit meeting of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS).

For the two staunchest of allies of Senegal in French-speaking Africa, Ivory Coast and Gabon, both anxious to work their way back into Nigeria's good books after their earlier backing for Biafra, jumped at the opportunity provided by the Senegal-Nigeria feud to leave Senegal to her own devices, thus withdrawing previous support for her position.

Just before leaving for his annual holiday in July, President Senghor was addressing a national council meeting of his ruling party and again hammering home Senegal's position on the festival, confident that he still enjoyed the support of both Ivory Coast and

Gabon, when a party official handed him a press agency report on the Ivory Coast Minister of Culture's press conference the same day. This announced that henceforth his country was siding with Nigeria on the festival issue.

The very next morning, Senegal's Minister of Finance and Economic Affairs, just managed to catch the flight to the Ivory Coast capital, where he was received by President Houphouët-Boigny. Then he proceeded to Lagos to revitalize the tenuous links established when President Senghor sent his Prime Minister to attend the heads of state meeting to set up ECOWAS there.

From then on, observers could clearly see that peace moves were afoot. So they were not surprised by the communiqué, although the featherweight nature of the text led them to speculate on the weighty matters that were left out.

The real object was no doubt to provide a face-saver to Senegal, which was heavily left with any alternative to isolation but a return to the fold, albeit while still maintaining a conspicuous position close to the gate.

Dr Alioune Diop, aged 66, a Senegalese professor of philosophy, president of the Société Africaine de Culture and editor of *Présence Africaine*, was appointed secretary general by the first festival 10 years ago and held the post until last May.

The nature of Dr Diop's personal relations with the latest Nigerian authorities and the reasons for their sudden withdrawal of confidence in him are not altogether clear, despite the flood of explanations.

In May, a Federation Government Cabinet meeting communiqué abruptly announced two unexpected pieces of news: that Senegal "had decided to withdraw from the festival" (which Dakar and President Senghor in person strongly denied); and that Dr Diop was relieved of his post.

A lightning visit to Paris by Dr Diop in the company of Wole Soyinka to sort out the middle directly with President Senghor produced no change in the position of the Nigerians, who unilaterally appointed a new secretary general.

All these decisions, to be valid, should have been taken not by Nigeria but by the supreme authority of the festival, its international committee, which Nigeria stubbornly ignored throughout the process.

Captain Fingesi, successor to Chief Anthony Enahoro at the head of the committee, did not seem to be at all bothered by procedure.

Dr Diop held a press conference in Dakar on June 1, where he was flanked by Senegal's Minister of Culture. He explained Nigeria's decision to sack him as the outcome of deepening dis-

agreement over Captain Fingesi's "increasing Nigerianization" of the festival and his own denouncing of bureaucratic ineptitude and the "sharks who dived into the festival budget", turning the forthcoming event into "a festival of contracts".

Dr Diop said he himself had offered to resign on a number of occasions, finding it impossible to work in these conditions, but had been prevailed upon by President Senghor to remain in office. He had, however, been so disillusioned that he took the precaution of submitting a job application to Howard University, Washington.

When the storm broke, President Senghor spoke at one point of convening the international festival committee with a view to organizing a festival addressed specifically to "blacks".

Public opinion, excited by the fate of M Sene some months back, is today unperturbed by Dr Diop's fate. As M Sene said laconically: "Since Senegal had not appointed him, the Nigerian Government was quite free to refuse to host any international civil servant whose presence embarrassed it. We cannot impose him upon Nigeria."

The author is editor-publisher of the Dakar fortnightly *Lettre Fémée*.

## Zambia: jigsaw puzzle

by Trevor Grundy

A Zambian friend of mine at the Livingstone Museum once exclaimed: "Here we are spending our lives trying to discover what we are and what our culture consists of and over the road they're selling 'traditional' Zambian shields carrying the national emblem. We're 10 years old."

He had a point. It is too easy in countries such as Zambia to think up a culture almost as quickly as a minister for culture comes and goes—mainly in countries that lost most of it after the arrival of semi-literate Europeans, carpe-baggers and missionaries in the nineteenth century. Zambians in general use the word "culture" very loosely indeed.

To some Zambians it could be a way of dancing at a shebeen; to others, offering guests' perhaps a little more than they can eat or drink. A deeply hospitable and friendly people, Zambians take pride that a guest comes to the house he never goes away empty.

That is one aspect of a culture. It should really be called "way of life". Zambia is a young country. Despite its vastness (the size of France, Belgium and The Netherlands put together) it is still discovering itself in a way researchers, social anthropologists and students of the oral tradition.

As late as 1965 an Iron Age site was discovered in Southern Rhodesia showing direct cultural links with

usually pitifully ignorant whites in Rhodesia. South Africa of former colonial Africa adopt a rigid mental stance when discussing African or black culture.

Their derision, in turn, forces blacks to take an equally rigid position about extraordinary claims about Zambia's cultural legacy and achievement have been made by Zambians in the past.

Perhaps the threat of Mr Ian Smith's hostile Government to the south, an entrenched and mocking expatriate community within its borders and key industries, forces that to happen. However, there are encouraging signs that thinking Zambians are letting go a bit, relaxing and seeing Zambian culture for what it is: a rich jigsaw puzzle made up of tiny tribal pieces, 72 of them.

Zambia's tribal culture is rich: one must dig for it. Literally, or move away from the country's small, hot hut towns into the countryside. Apart from a handful of museums it is certainly not to be found in the slightly squalid towns of the Copperbelt or in the multiracial but characterless capital, Lusaka.

But the hunt is on and since independence an amazing amount of good work has been carried out by field researchers, social anthropologists and students of the oral tradition.

As late as 1965 an Iron Age site was discovered in Southern Rhodesia showing direct cultural links with settlements (and fairly intricate pottery designs) around the Kalombo Falls. Zambians speak with pride about the Zimbabwe ruins almost as if early Zimbabwe's achievements were its own which, taking away political boundaries, they are.

In a country without a great tradition of literacy the real work is being achieved by recording oral traditions. The similarities between the country's tribes, some of them tiny, some large and powerful like the northern Zembas and southern Loxias, is the glue that keeps the Zambian doll together. Dr Kaunda's Government has taken pains to discover what unites his tribes and play down what divides them.

Musically, the selection is exciting. Peter King, the jazz musician, and Ian Hall and Philip Ramocon, the classical musicians, will perform. The British Council is supporting Osibia, the superb Afro-rock band, whose roots stretch back to the time when Teddy Osai, who plays the flute and saxophone, was playing with a group called the Comets in Ghana.

Various waves of immigration and invasion made Zambia what it is today. The first came from Zaire, whose mighty sixteenth-century Lunda-Luba empire gave birth to two of the country's main tribal groupings, Bamba and Lunda.

As early as AD 900 there existed a powerful Luba kingdom along the Lusaba river. It was peopled by

skilled copper-smiths who were usefully employed by the matrilineal Luba. Legend has it that wandering Luba fell in love with a girl of the two tribes and the result was a new tribe. Anthropologists found incredible cultural parallels the people of Luba empire of and ancient Zambian empire did not let its mainly because guese and missionisation which le immigration from today what is tod Today's Zamba, crossed the Luba before 1700, mwards to conquer land claims.

The Loxias (con best educated culture-conscious tribes) also move seventeenth century did not cross of They headed so upper regions o bozi and were as dominant i as the Bembas i (a problem that the young Kaun

Dress style natural parallel in which the Lundas address i all add up to a cultural criss-cross more weight to of African unit Organization o Unity.

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Simon Kapwepa, Copperbelt miner it came he reliev the charm, im sophistication of

Since then he l highly successful Newspapers, a broadcasting sta sines and polit endlessly about Z ture. Like t "humanism" i multitude of Lunda-Luba empire gave doubts and per! But as the polid of it Zambia's el ing number o artists, designer polioists and scie kingdom along the Lusaba its course and, river. It was peopled by

## Britain: hard to choose

continued from previous page

says that he is "beginning to get the message".

Herbert Norville, who plays Tony, came to Britain from Guyana in 1962 when he was five, and has appeared in several television productions, as well as the film *Bugsy Malone*.

The idea for *Pressure* came about five years ago when Robert Buckler, then a script editor for the BBC, was considering mounting a season of West Indian plays. He met Horace Ové, the director of the excellent film *Reggae*, which traced the origins of the music in Africa and the West Indies, and they agreed to make a film about the problems of the new generation of black people in Britain—the children who were born here.

Samuel Selvon, the Trinidadian novelist and playwright, was co-script writer with Horace Ové. They carried out extensive research in the Ladbroke Grove area,

and found a group of teenagers living in a derelict basement. Much of the film was based on their experiences, and several of them appear in the film.

Herbert Norville was discovered at a drama school in Islington run by Anna Scher. The BBC rejected the script, commercial companies refused it, but the British Film Institute had the courage to back it.

The outstanding selection of paintings, sculpture, woodcuts and pottery being sent to the festival is a mixture of work by well-known artists who have exhibited widely, and those who are less well established but whose work is of an equally high standard.

Ronald Moody's sculptures have been acclaimed at exhibitions in Paris, London, Amsterdam and the United States. He was born in Jamaica in 1910, and settled in Paris in 1936. When war broke out, he managed to reach Orleans and walked

from there to Marseilles. He escaped over the Pyrenees, arriving in England in 1941.

Sculptures by Cyprian Mandala, Donald Locke and Taiwo Jegede are also being exhibited. Cyprian Mandala was born in Rhodesia, and says that he is inspired by an urge to provide contemporary interpretations of African mythological folklore and forms.

Donald Locke, from Guyana, won a British Council scholarship in 1954 to Bath Academy of Art, and in 1964 graduated from Edinburgh University with an honours degree in fine art. He taught in Guyana before leaving in 1971 to live in England.

Taiwo Jegede, from Nigeria, has had several one-man exhibitions in Britain, and is artist in residence at the Keslake Arts Centre in North London.

Aubrey Williams, whose painting is being exhibited, was born in Guyana, and lived for two years with a primitive Indian tribe, the Warrau, in the Guyanese jungle while he was working

in the Civil Service. He painted intensively during that time. He now lectures in fine art (painting) at Exeter College of Art in Devon.

Another of the artists whose painting is being exhibited is Winston Branch, from St. Lucia, who has exhibited in Britain, Paris, the United States, West Germany, Africa, Italy, Belgium, Spain, Denmark, Norway, Poland and Yugoslavia. Paintings are also being exhibited by Ossie Murray, from Jamaica, who came to Britain in 1959 and worked at screen process printing and as a poster artist. He illustrates children's books, and is a part-time teacher with the London Borough of Waltham Forest.

Sue Jane Smock, who is exhibiting woodcuts, is from New Orleans, and has exhibited widely in the United States, Europe and Britain.

Eric Grant, from Jamaica, runs a pottery studio in London, and will show work at the festival. His pottery has been exhibited, and individual pieces of work have been bought by private collectors all over the world.

Poets and playwrights, such as Earl Long and Nuruddin Farah, who were chosen because they were fairly unknown but their writing was of a high standard, are sending work, and the Radical Alliance of Poets, who work at the Black Theatre of Brixton, will be performing.

Musically, the selection is exciting. Peter King, the jazz musician, and Ian Hall and Philip Ramocon, the classical musicians, will perform. The British Council is supporting Osibia, the superb Afro-rock band, whose roots stretch back to the time when Teddy Osai, who plays the flute and saxophone, was playing with a group called the Comets in Ghana.

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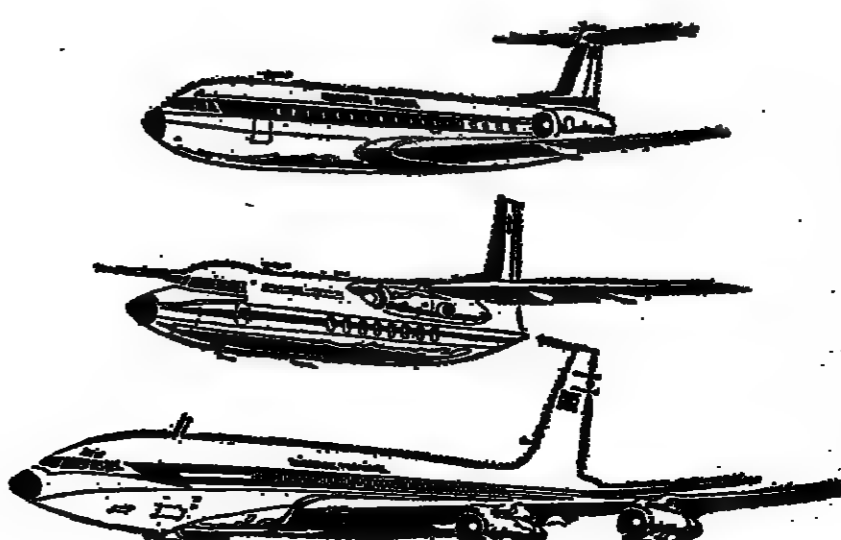


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# THE TIMES

## BUSINESS NEWS

# LAINING

LOCAL OR NATIONAL CONSTRUCTION SERVICE

## Oil price increases puts \$5,000m on valuation Britain's N Sea fields

Oil prices in the North Sea have risen sharply, adding \$5,000m to the value of the country's oil fields, according to a report by the British Petroleum (BP) group.

The report, which is the first since the beginning of the year, says that the value of the country's oil fields has risen from \$40,000m to \$45,000m. This is due to a rise in the price of oil from \$12.90 a barrel to \$14.05.

The report also says that the value of the country's oil fields will rise to \$50,000m by the end of the year. This is due to a further rise in the price of oil to \$15.00 a barrel.

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## Further study to be made before decision is taken on German bank

A decision on whether to merge the German banks, Haniel and Hoescht, will be made after further study, according to a report by the German government.

The report says that the government is considering the merger of the two banks, which would create a new bank with a capital of \$100m.

The report also says that the government is considering the merger of the two banks, which would create a new bank with a capital of \$100m.

## Landlords attack on bank insurance takeover plan

Landlords are attacking a plan by the bank to take over the insurance business, according to a report by the bank.

The report says that the bank is planning to take over the insurance business, which would create a new bank with a capital of \$100m.

The report also says that the bank is planning to take over the insurance business, which would create a new bank with a capital of \$100m.

## Leyland asks Government for pay flexibility to help £50m fringe benefits offer to workers

Leyland has asked the Government for pay flexibility to help it offer £50m in fringe benefits to its workers, according to a report by the company.

The report says that the company is planning to offer £50m in fringe benefits to its workers, which would include a 10% increase in pay.

The report also says that the company is planning to offer £50m in fringe benefits to its workers, which would include a 10% increase in pay.

## Christmas sales claims extravagant

Claims by some High Street traders of a boom in Christmas sales are being questioned by the Department of Industry, according to a report by the department.

The report says that the department is questioning the claims of a boom in Christmas sales, as it has seen a decline in sales in recent months.

The report also says that the department is questioning the claims of a boom in Christmas sales, as it has seen a decline in sales in recent months.

## Ford budget a problem for Mr Carter

President Ford's budget is a problem for Mr Carter, according to a report by the President.

The report says that the President is planning to cut the budget, which would create a new budget with a capital of \$100m.

The report also says that the President is planning to cut the budget, which would create a new budget with a capital of \$100m.

## North Sea deal by Bow Valley (UK)

The Canadian Bow Valley Energy Ltd. has reached a deal with the UK government, according to a report by the company.

The report says that the company has reached a deal with the UK government, which would create a new company with a capital of \$100m.

The report also says that the company has reached a deal with the UK government, which would create a new company with a capital of \$100m.

## £7.5m offer for Gateway Securities

A £7.5m offer for Gateway Securities has been made, according to a report by the company.

The report says that the company is planning to offer £7.5m for Gateway Securities, which would create a new company with a capital of \$100m.

The report also says that the company is planning to offer £7.5m for Gateway Securities, which would create a new company with a capital of \$100m.

## US prime rate hardens to 6 1/2 pc

The US prime rate has hardened to 6 1/2 percent, according to a report by the Federal Reserve.

The report says that the Federal Reserve has raised the prime rate to 6 1/2 percent, which would create a new rate with a capital of \$100m.

The report also says that the Federal Reserve has raised the prime rate to 6 1/2 percent, which would create a new rate with a capital of \$100m.

## Builders say outlook deteriorating

Builders are saying that the outlook for the construction industry is deteriorating, according to a report by the industry.

The report says that the industry is planning to cut the budget, which would create a new budget with a capital of \$100m.

The report also says that the industry is planning to cut the budget, which would create a new budget with a capital of \$100m.

## Fair windfall for marine artists at the Boat Show

Marine artists are getting a fair windfall from the Boat Show, according to a report by the artists.

The report says that the artists are planning to sell their work at the Boat Show, which would create a new market with a capital of \$100m.

The report also says that the artists are planning to sell their work at the Boat Show, which would create a new market with a capital of \$100m.

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## How the markets moved

Rises	Falls
Bankers' 10p to 20p	McCorquodale 7p to 15p
Beecham 8p to 10p	Metalex 1p to 15p
Comvot 4p to 8p	Peko Walsell 5p to 20p
EMI 5p to 10p	Southall 5p to 20p
Essex 8p to 10p	UC Invest 5p to 15p
Imp Chem Ind 10p to 15p	Union Corp 5p to 15p
Lucas Ind 11p to 22p	Wombwell Fdry 1p to 15p

Equities	Commodities
5132.375	5132.375
SDR-4 was 1.15570 on Friday, while SDR-4 was 0.67537.	5132.375
Commodities: Rubber's index (previous all time high at 1600, previous 1587.4).	5132.375
Reports, pages 20 and 21	5132.375

## THE POUND

Bank	Bank
Australia \$ 1.62	1.57
Austria Sch 30.50	28.50
Belgium Fr 66.25	63.25
Canada \$ 10.77	10.77
Denmark Kr 6.70	6.45
France Fr 6.78	6.46
Germany Dm 4.28	4.06
Greece Dr 73.50	69.50
Hong Kong \$ 1610.00	1530.00
Italy Lr 525.00	500.00
Netherlands Gld 4.47	4.25
Norway Kr 5.38	5.00
Portugal Esc 59.50	55.50
S Africa Rd 2.06	1.90
Spain Pes 121.00	113.00
Sweden Kr 7.52	7.17
Switzerland Fr 4.44	4.10
US \$ 1.5570	1.5370
Yugoslavia Ddr 34.25	32.00

## Computer code number plan for supermarkets to replace price tags and speed up check-outs

By Patricia Tisdall

Plans to coordinate computer code numbers used for British food and grocery products through an article number bank have reached an advanced stage after almost 10 years of discussion within the trade.

The allocation of code numbers is the first step in a development which could eventually speed up supermarket check-out procedures and abolish the need for price labels to be placed on individual grocery products.

Depending on the outcome of equivalent discussions nearing completion within the EEC, the British bank is expected to start functioning within the next three months. Details of how it

will operate are due to be announced at a conference to be held by the United Kingdom Article Number Association later this month.

The proposed system could, for instance, enable retailers to automatically reorder supplies from manufacturers and generally control stock levels.

If printed on product packets the code numbers could be used by supermarkets in conjunction with electronic cash registers to automatically scan products as they pass through the check-out.

This could be used to give shoppers an itemized list of purchases on his receipt. At the same time information about the sale would be transmitted direct from the check-out to retailer recorders or com-

puters and then to manufacturers.

The coordination of code numbers which are unique to the product they represent and identify precisely is seen as an essential first step in setting up such systems.

Standardized numbering systems for some specific goods, such as paint colours, have been in use in Britain for some years. But the diversity of articles and manufacturers involved in the grocery trade has led to prolonged discussions.

The Article Number Association was formed a year ago by major retailers, including the Co-op and Boots, and manufacturers, such as Unilever and H. J. Heinz, to speed up things. Electronic equipment manufacturers, including Inter-

national Computers, NCR and a number of Japanese companies, are looking to a standardized grocery product numbering system to improve sales of computer-linked electronic cash registers.

It is understood that at least 10 large British retailers, including the Green Shield-owned Argos group and Bencalls, the department store company, are already carrying out tests with such equipment.

Mr Stanley Maughan, chairman of the Article Number Association and administration director of Allied Suppliers, says: "The numbering system may eventually have as much dynamic impact on the United Kingdom grocery industry as the development of self-service did years ago."

## UNITED KINGDOM TRADE

The following are the December trade figures, seasonally adjusted and corrected on a balance of payments basis with allowances for known recording errors, as released by the Department of Trade:

	Exports £m	Imports £m	Visible balance £m
1974	15,999	21,119	-5,220
1975	18,768	21,972	-3,204
1975 Q1	4,531	5,383	-852
Q2	4,531	5,160	-629
Q3	4,632	5,621	-989
Q4	5,126	5,808	-682
1976 Q1	5,445	5,833	-488
Q2	6,020	6,986	-966
Q3	6,150	7,316	-1,166
Q4	6,818	7,347	-529
1976	1,932	2,224	-292
April	2,018	2,369	-351
May	2,070	2,395	-325
June	1,959	2,474	-515
July	2,040	2,353	-313
Aug	2,142	2,509	-367
Sept	2,231	2,572	-341
Oct	2,225	2,734	-509
Nov	2,262	2,541	-279
Dec	2,262	2,541	-279

r revised p provisional

## TERMS OF TRADE

The following are the unit value index numbers for visible trade not seasonally adjusted issued by the Department of Trade yesterday:

	1970=100 Exports	1970=100 Imports	Terms of Trade
1972	111.0	109.6	101.3
1973	126.0	139.7	90.2
1974	162.7	218.0	74.6
1975	198.5	245.7	80.8
1975 Q1	184.9	240.5	76.9
Q2	193.4	241.1	80.2
Q3	202.2	247.1	81.8
Q4	210.1	260.4	80.7
1976 Q1	219.0	270.0	81.1
Q2	234.2	283.6	78.8
Q3	247.4	293.3	84.4
Q4	261.7	332.1	78.8
1976	228.4	285.4	80.0
April	233.9	284.2	79.5
May	240.4	301.7	79.8
June	242.6	306.1	79.3
July	247.9	308.0	80.5
Aug	251.7	313.8	80.2
Sept	256.4	324.0	79.2
Oct	261.8	324.8	78.2
Nov	266.9	337.4	79.1
Dec	266.9	337.4	79.1

r revised p provisional

## RETAIL SALES AND HP

The following are the seasonally adjusted figures for the volume of retail sales and value of new instalment credit released by the Department of Industry:

	Sales by volume 1971=100	New credit extended £m
1972	105.8	2,497
1973	110.7	2,571
1974	109.9	2,517
1975	107.9	2,987
1975 Q1	111.3	711
Q2	108.9	759
Q3	105.5	748
Q4	105.8	739
1976 Q1	107.3	833
Q2	106.7	873
Q3	108.7	913
1976	107.0	285
Dec	107.0	285
1976	109.8	282
Jan	107.1	276
Feb	105.5	280
March	108.5	291
April	108.7	291
May	108.1	291
June	103.3	290
July	103.9	304
Aug	106.8	319
Sept	107.3	309
Oct	109.3	331
Nov	108.5	—
Dec	108.5	—

r revised p provisional

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Selling a bottle of Scotch at the price of a dram

From Mr S. Lewis

Sir, I read with much interest Mr Ronald Kershaw's article in *The Times* of December 30 and the letter published in your columns on January 10 from Mr Bergius, the chairman of William Teacher & Sons Ltd. I felt Mr Kershaw's article was most enlightening. Whilst I have no great knowledge of the whisky trade (although formerly a shareholder in William Teacher and indeed a shareholder in The Distillers Company) Mr Bergius's letter contains comments which in my opinion seem to support Mr Kershaw's proposition for a working relationship with the Government with regard to the problems of the Scotch whisky industry.

Although I was amazed to see that taxation on Scotch whisky now amounts to almost £3.50 a bottle, one can logically assume that the Chancellor's eagerness to increase taxes on Scotch, in his own words "to bring the product in line with inflation", indicates that the industry itself has obviously been charging the wrong price for their product for many years.

As the DCL's influence over prices, I remember some years ago when Teachers tried to increase prices without similar action from the DCL they lost a substantial proportion of their business and indeed had to bow down to pressure and cancel out the increase. If the major companies within the Scotch whisky industry seem hell bent on cutting each

other's throats there must be a case for some other body to be involved to protect them from themselves.

On exports, it seems incredible that Scotch whisky is exported at under a £1 a bottle despite the rapid devaluation of sterling. This seems to be a case once again of a British product in worldwide demand being undersold to the detriment of all concerned. This is particularly galling when one sees that French Cognac appears to be selling at twice the price of Scotch whisky, although I have drunk both and invariably paid the same price for a glass of each.

Finally, it was only a few weeks ago that I along with other shareholders were informed by Mr Bergius that despite record profits he could see no alternative but to apply for the assistance and sustenance of a prosperous major brewing group, resulting in the takeover of Teachers by Allied Breweries. In Mr Bergius's own words, the company "had reached the end of the road". This above all must be an indication that all is not well in the Scotch whisky trade and Mr Kershaw's comments on some government intervention seem to me to be very sound for an industry dominated, as Scotch is, by one large group—DCL.

Yours faithfully, S. LEWIS, 22 Croftmore Court, London, W.9, January 13, 1977.

### Opportunity offered by current debate on constitutional reforms

From Mr David Skellan

Sir, The title chosen for Mr Eric Wigham's important article (January 11) "A new industrial forum in place of the House of Lords", helps to frame the essentials of the question, though I do not think it indicates quite the right answer.

That a "House of Industry" should replace the House of Lords was one of the proposals put forward in 1930 by S. G. Hobson; but he soon realized that this was not the right direction for a metamorphosis of the Lords to take. He came to agree with those who saw how "Their Lordships' House" might more appropriately be converted into the House of Culture, which is where the leading academics, doctors, artistic professionals, and representatives of all the churches (not only the Anglican) should perform a function which may come to be seen as equally vital with that of industry. The proposal of Mr John Mackintosh MP confuses the issue by mixing up "power blocks" with doctors, teachers, and lawyers in the same chamber as trade unions and employers.

Much could be said about the differing roles of the cultural and economic professions. But for the moment industry is the point. The House of Commons has continued to be relatively weak in industrial knowledge, and to be over-burdened

with political business, while the power of organized labour and the dependence of society on industrial success have increased. Mr Peter Parker's plan appears to be the most encouraging at present—and it is interesting, incidentally, that he does not hesitate to speak of a "third house".

Legislation should of course continue to be the business of the Commons, but it would in many cases be a healthier and more effective legislation if the specialized issues were thoroughly and competently thrashed out in an appropriate chamber, freed, as the engineers have suggested, from the "rattled and often impractical atmosphere" of Parliament—or at least the political chamber of Parliament—and with the power and growing statesmanship of the trade unions properly channelled.

Present interest and openness about possible major constitutional changes offer a great opportunity to create in a House of Culture a genuinely functional role for our obsolescent House of Lords, and to meet the urgent need of a constitutional role for industry in an Economic Chamber—thus a tri-cameral Parliament. Why not?

Yours faithfully, D. SKELLAN, Norfolk Lodge Cottage, Terrace Lane, Richmond, Surrey, TW10 6NF, January 12.

### Danger to B of reflation the US econ

From Mr David Green

Sir, If one regards the desired increase in prices after 1970 as a demand to sustain world expectations finally overtaken the available to sustain pleasure can be der the intended reflation United States econo

For, if that happens experience another m in world commodity p past experience show clearly that the ben our economy can de growth in world trad match the additions which it will carry, a heavy overseas resou dence, if commodi break away.

We seem to suffer fatal reluctance to lo sides of the equation for expansion of worl absorb our under-in city and manpower, I acknowledge that th sion's effect on ra prices will probab great as to make o position worse than The core of the r that our internal both in manufactur and in our resource sectors suffer critic pability with the r the world econoic The world wants ar end we are weak in ti it is increasingly shoy yet our agricultural annual reduce able land and produ than in cultivation; it our oil over 80 per goods available is by

Unless we are pr face the temporary necessary to free the re-equip ourselves changed world, not save us. The design to the present econo great that it cannot a solvent fashion world trade is doing, the cost of a far gret in living standi have so far been pr contempt, or an a creasing burden of d DAVID GREEN, Rhyl, y. Harding, Castle Morris, Nr Boverfordwest, Pembrokeshire.

### Bread prices

From Mr B. A. Dench

Sir, On today's *World* Mr Roy Hattersley he could not expect to keep in business i client (and, by infern bakeries through hi prices.

In the PM press evening Sir Derek that the money nec the miners' retireme would hopefully come creased productivity. if they failed to Dec efficient, the cost w to come from big prices. But for the fear of strike of coal deli would suggest sendi tersley to the minea. Yours faithfully, B. A. DENCH, Ringden Farm, Hurst Green, Ertshingham, Sussex.

## Large and small systems for Woolworths

A blend of large, centralized computer systems and local distributed-computing systems based on minicomputers is being pursued by F. W. Woolworth & Co in the management of its chain of retail stores.

Woolworths have ordered a £900,000 ICL 2960 as a large mainframe unit, and is planning to base its central data-processing on the 2900 series. At present it uses two ICL 1964S computers at Castleon, Lancashire, for store orders, stock control and warehousing applications; and a 1904A and a 1903A at Swindon, Wiltshire, for warehouse control.

The company has also bought a £75,000, 10-station, distributed processing system for the buying department at its London head office. This is based on Computer Automation's Alpha LSI-2/60 minicomputer.

According to Mr Ron Ward, the Woolworth senior executive responsible for management services: "This ties in with Woolworth's data-processing philosophy of using large

## Computer news

mainframe computers for centralized applications, with distributed processing for local applications."

In a third computer-related deal, Woolworths have leased software from J. Harwell Data Processing to assist in the conversion of Cobol language programs from ICL 1900 to 2900 systems.

### Sound mixer

A computer-assisted sound-mixing system for recording studios which is claimed to be the first of its kind in the world is now being used by Air Recording Studios, London.

Designed by Rupert Nere and Co, specialists in studio sound control equipment, the system enables many different elements of a recording to be stored, manipulated and recalled in order to produce the final version in a much

more precise and comprehensive way than before.

The minicomputer-based system adds about £25,000 to the £40,000 price of a typical manual mixing console installation. According to Mr George Martin, producer of Beatles records for EMI in the 1960s and now chairman of Air Recording Studios, it can cut the time needed to create the final product from the initial recordings by about half.

The minicomputer used is the LSI-2/10 produced by Computer Automation.

### Car finder

A "Computacar" service, which matches a potential buyer's requirements with models available at car showrooms which are registered under the scheme, is being provided to cover the Greater London area by Unilever Computer Services Ltd (UCSL), Wembley, Middlesex.

### ICL for SWIFT

THE ICL (ex-Singer) terminal system designed for the

Society of Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunication (SWIFT) network has passed its acceptance tests for use by the organization's member-banks, the computer company has announced.

This is based on the ex-Singer 1500 series of transaction terminals. Combined with appropriate software for the international banking application, the unit is one of three officially recommended SWIFT Interface Devices.

### Life assurance plan

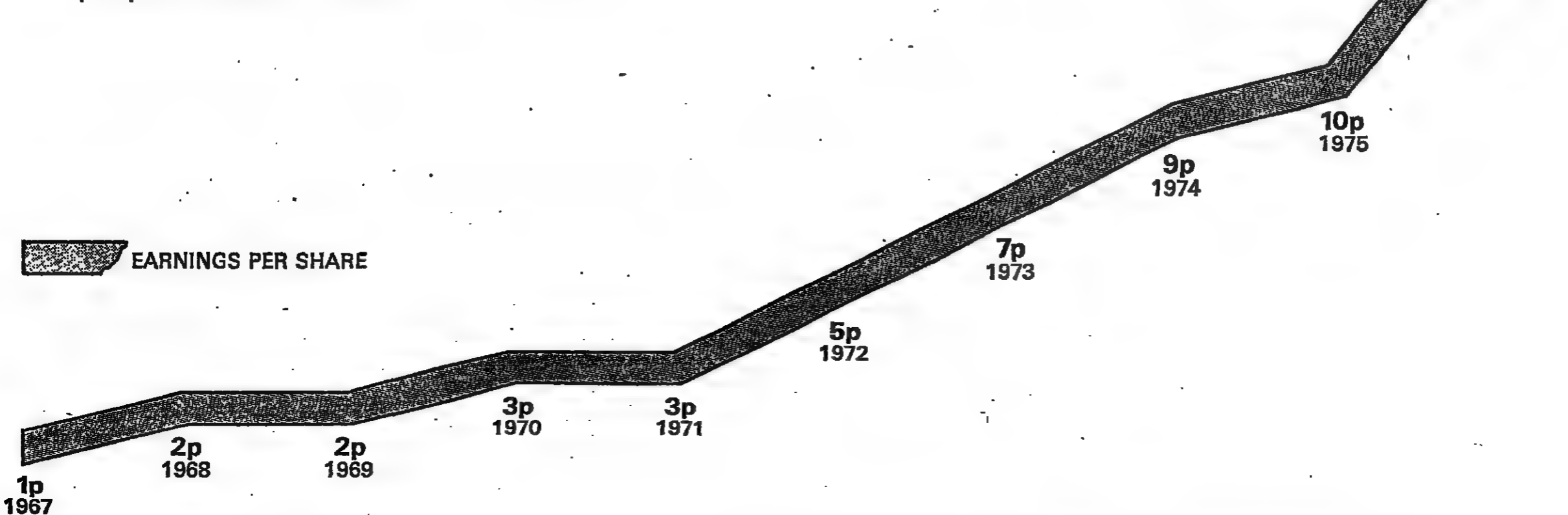
Data Logic of Greenford, Middlesex, and Gresham Life Assurance Society are jointly implementing a comprehensive life assurance system on a Hewlett Packard 300 Series 2 computer which will be located at the society's head office in Bournemouth.

Contracts worth about £250,000 covering equipment and software were recently signed by Gresham with Data Logic. Each user department will have its own terminal.

Kenneth Owen

# Hanson Trust

"1977 prospects excellent" Chairman



Year	Pre-tax Profit	Earnings per share	Assets per share	Market Capitalisation
1967	£634,000	1p	8p	£5,000,000
1976	£19,000,000	15p	85p	£70,000,000

For a copy of the latest Accounts call Peter Turner (01) 581 1975 180 Brompton Road, London SW3 1HF

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BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

## Gilts as institutions run down liquidity

no short "tap" in the market and a widespread expectation that the gilt market will be out of the market by the end of the day of the full point among the heavy applications for a long "tap" on Thursday.

current of new stock to the market in an attempt to prevent yields rising in the market, already under pressure on the very system and forced to release liquidity into the market through the return of deposits—some £740m had been released yesterday.

There are now those who think that the effect on the market will be to allow interest rates to rise more rapidly, particularly Greenwell's, in the Monetary Bulletin, that the present rate of sales may be slowing down the rate of growth to an extent likely to hold back the growth.

Other concern to some in the market is that the present gilt sales may be slowing down the rate of growth to an extent likely to hold back the growth.

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Mr Alastair Down, chairman of Burmah Oil: a favourable decision on its LNG vessels is expected this week.

increase this year of two points generally in interest rates is the most that can be expected and many think it will not be much more than one point.

A rise of these proportions should not be much of an obstacle to the present declining trend in United Kingdom interest rates. The differential between British and American rates has become, by historical standards, excessively wide, and there would almost certainly have been scope for contraction without having the pound even of the extra stabilizing influence of the sterling balances safety net was absent.

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ful thinking that the Government would attempt to forestall the group's action for the return of its British Petroleum holding by agreeing to hand back some of the profit when the stake is finally sold.

What the market was banking on yesterday, however, was that the Government was about to be relieved of its financing commitment for construction of the liquefied natural gas vessels with the Indonesian state oil group Pertamina. After Burmah's troubles in 1975 when United States institutions involved in the financing of these LNG vessels dropped Burmah like a hot brick, the company has had to finance the building of these vessels off its own bat.

That has meant a £7m a month cash outlay and loans to date of almost £100m.

General Dynamics came to Burmah's aid by agreeing to take over responsibility for these vessels providing it could obtain suitable financing guarantees from the United States Maritime Administration.

These guarantees have been an unconscionable time materializing. But about a month ago Mr Richardson, the United States Commerce Secretary, said that a decision would be made in the life of the Ford Administration, so with Mr Carter taking over on Thursday something will have to be said by tomorrow.

Plainly the market is expecting a favourable decision, a notion Burmah itself does not dispel. But whether or not there is any follow through depends on future recovery prospects and there the picture is more hazy. Certainly, with its disposal programme behind it, the LNG position has been Burmah's major worry and its solution will bring the group closer to a positive cash flow. But even if the patient is walking again, it is still a long way from complete recovery and my advice still is to continue to treat the shares as a short-run speculative counter.

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THE TIMES TUESDAY JANUARY 18 1977

Six groups hold over 90pc of the business for the 9.4m colour television sets rented in UK

## TV rental groups battle for market share

Ronald Emler

Over 60 per cent of the 9.4 million colour television sets in British homes are rented and increasingly those subscribers whose contracts are with companies whose major interest is in selling rather than letting are finding that their contracts are being taken over by one of the six main major specialist rental groups. For the past two years there has been an increasing concentration of the rental business into their hands, and it is a process which is expected to continue this year. Today they hold 90 per cent of all rental business.

They are keen to buy the rental contracts of any retailer and will even take over his whole business if the price is right and the rental side of the business sufficiently attractive. The attraction for the rental company is increased density, that is the number of subscribers per outlet.

The vendor, especially if he is seeking to trade as a retailer, can realize as much as 18 to 20 months' rental income per contract while the consumer, it is claimed, benefits from better service and increased choice of receiver. The rental companies claim that when a takeover takes place there is little evidence of subscribers wishing to change to a different rental.

The competition to take over rental contracts is expected to intensify during the coming year. The rental companies are lowering of real prices of colour sets the attractions of outright purchase for the customer are eroding the competitive edge of rental. Further, now that colour has achieved more than 90 per cent penetration in the national market, increased business will be more difficult to attract, especially as this year will see a further decline in disposable incomes. Rental is now estimated to account for 55 per cent of new colour sets, but because of past success rental still accounts for approximately two-thirds of colour sets in use in the country.

Granada, one of the most active companies in the take-over field, says there is a marked trend for retailers to surrender their foothold in the rental business in times of economic depression. This started with the introduction of the 25 per cent rate of VAT in May, 1975 (since reduced to 12.5 per cent), and continues because retailers are eager to turn an asset into cash. In fact, the process began as far back as 1973 with the imposition of rental controls and increased deposits.

On the other hand, the Radio Electrical and Television Retailers Association believes that during slow trading periods the one source of constant cash flow for the independent retailer is his rental business. As a result, it is felt that during the next six months, while trading patterns are expected to be heavily depressed, retailers will be reluctant to sell their rental business, thus making takeovers more expensive for the specialist renters and the scene of intense competition.

For the specialists, Thorn (Radio Rentals, DER and Multi-

broadcast, Granada, British Relay, Visionaire, Television, and Rediffusion, placements are expected to continue at reasonable levels for several years, but new contracts are unlikely to achieve the levels of 1972-74 when an additional 2.25 million sets were let annually. Thus the major drive will be to increase density per outlet, to maintain cash flow growth.

The National Television Rental Association says some 7.5 million contracts held by member companies are serviced from approximately 3,000 showrooms, giving an average density per showroom of 2,500 contracts. The remainder are held by smaller outlets, mainly retailers, who have much weaker densities in general.

Thorn believes that any branch which is able to maintain a density of 5,000 is doing "extremely well" at double the industry average, whereas Television is thought to have achieved an average density of only approximately 1,700.

Overheads are relatively fixed per branch except for the cost of additional engineers and their transport. It is thought within the industry that with increased reliability one engineer can service 700 to 800 contracts annually. However, there is an optimum size per branch, which Thorn reckons to be a catchment

area of 35,000 homes. Above that size overheads in terms of service journey length and the unwillingness of a customer to travel some distance to make monthly payments reduce efficiency and effectiveness.

The majors do have an alternative avenue of increased profitability to explore. The industry regards a colour set life as six years and allows for depreciation on that basis. If, however, a set can be let for longer than that period (to no matter how many successive subscribers) it greatly increases its marginal profit to the rental company.

With the colour boom having started in 1970-71, many sets are now due for technical wear off, but the Government have left the companies an incentive to refer the older set at attractive prices to the consumer, because rental controls apply only to sets under three years old.

Any set over three years old is exempt from controls, such as the initial six-months rent, and can consequently be sold on cheaper, more attractive terms, with only a marginal risk to the subscriber of lesser reliability.

While the customer may have a less attractive product in terms of gadgetry such as remote control tuning or less modern styling, he does have the incentive of cheaper monthly rental and probably only one month's down payment to make. Thus the customer could achieve a lower outlay, while the rental company increases its earnings per set by

extending its useful life. This is of major importance to the big six, all of which are parts of larger groups which rely on their cash flow to fund other parts of their businesses.

Consequently, while the days of the major takeovers are probably past, the majors will remain on growth trends partly because the increased profitability given by the swing to colour, partly through takeover and increased density and partly by increasing effective set life.

The issue causing the headache in boardrooms, however, is the transfer to colour. Will it be television games, television, video disc, equipment allowing repeated viewing of selected programmes, or complete video recording equipment?

No company has yet committed itself to any one of the options, especially as they are all awaiting the Anna Committee's report on the future of broadcasting. Decisions will have to be made in about two years, but until then the rental companies are waiting to see if there is any growth of public demand for any of the options, and probably more important, waiting for the major manufacturers further to finance development costs and perfect equipment.

Once these problems have been overcome, there will then be the difficult hurdle of capital outlay to jump. Video recorder's today cost more than a colour television, and thus if there is to be a market for such developments in the rental sector, careful calculations will be necessary on costs and charges.

John Earle

## Italy's state industry record tarnished by mismanagement

The mismanagement and malpractices which public opinion has come to associate with much of state-owned industry in Italy can be summed up with one four letter word, Egam.

Had it been a private group, Egam (Ente Autonomo di Gestione per le Aziende Minerarie e Metallurgiche) could hardly have survived today. Indeed, the almost unheard of step, for the public sector, was taken at the end of last year to start liquidation proceedings for seven companies employing 15,200 of the group's 34,000 workers.

The proceedings were subsequently halted by an emergency decree allocating 50,000 lire (£60m) of Government funds to cover salaries and immediate obligations while committing the Government to come up with a rescue plan by the end of February.

Signor Antonio Bisaglia, Minister for State-Owned Industry in Signor Giulio Andreotti's minority Christian Democratic Government, had intended to allow 500,000 lire (£633m), thus enabling Egam to carry on much as before. But in the face of an outcry threatened in Parliament, the sum was whittled down to 50,000.

The Egyptians are coming round to the revolutionary idea of a two-lane canal, even if it partially invalidates their plans on which work has begun—to build three tunnels under the canal joining their mainland to Sinai. Maunsel says this difficulty can be overcome by building the second channel shallower than the first to cater mainly for south-bound tankers in ballast.

Maunsel's recommendations have been awaited closely by the World Bank, which has long been interested in the canal, but has lacked the sound financial appraisal of its future on which to base its disbursements. Crucial World Bank decisions should follow shortly, and the Arabs will jump in with funds

not far behind. The financial future of the canal should be assured. Maunsel recommends the completion of the current development to bring in ships of 53ft draft or 150,000 tons dwt (more if in ballast or partially laden). This will cost £900m, of which a third is already committed.

Coincidentally Maunsel advises a programme of by-passes, starting with the Port Said bypass at the north of the canal during the first stage of development, followed by other by-passes and complete dualing by 2000, leaving out the Suez scheme.

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Fazio. The deal did not go through, for the sector was quite outside Egam's brief, and the price offered would have been unrealistically high—the stippling firm soon afterwards went into liquidation. Signor Einaudi had to resign last summer.

Later the corporation has been administered by a government commissioner, Signor Ugo Mura, who however has been able to do little in the face of debts of over 200,000 lire (over £530m), many of them short-term liabilities.

Egam has been up £250,000m in the life of funds (£250m) in the past three years, and at it would have been cheaper to pay the workforce to stay at home. It will be a millstone round the neck of the government for months to come.

Egam's debacle has fuelled polemics over management of state-owned industry. The state-owned corporation ENI and the smaller state-owned Eni have escaped the most pungent criticisms, the former thanks to its active international role, the latter thanks to maintaining a low profile.

Besides Egam, the main target has been the Iri (Istituto per la Ricostruzione Industriale) Corporation, with ramifications in most sectors of industry and finance.

Once "the Iri formula" whereby state companies raise funds and operate under market conditions in fulfilment of Government strategic policies, was hailed as a model worth copying in other countries like Britain.

In recent years, however, many Iri companies have become prominent mainly for their losses, whether in steel-making (Finisider), shipbuilding (Fincantieri), shipping (Finmare, now being reorganized), engineering (Finmeccanica), motor cars (Alfa Romeo), aviation (Alitalia), or food and confectionery (Alimonte and Motta, reorganized in Unidale). Fiat has withdrawn from partnership with Iri companies in Aeritalia (aerospace) and Grandi Motori (marine engines).

Today the group includes also Sogefra (Sardinian lead and zinc mines), Breda Siderurgia (special steels), Coper (textile machinery), Comsal (aluminium processing), Somme (pyrites sulphuric acid), Monte Amiata (mercury), and Vetrotcoke (cnke, chemicals, glass).

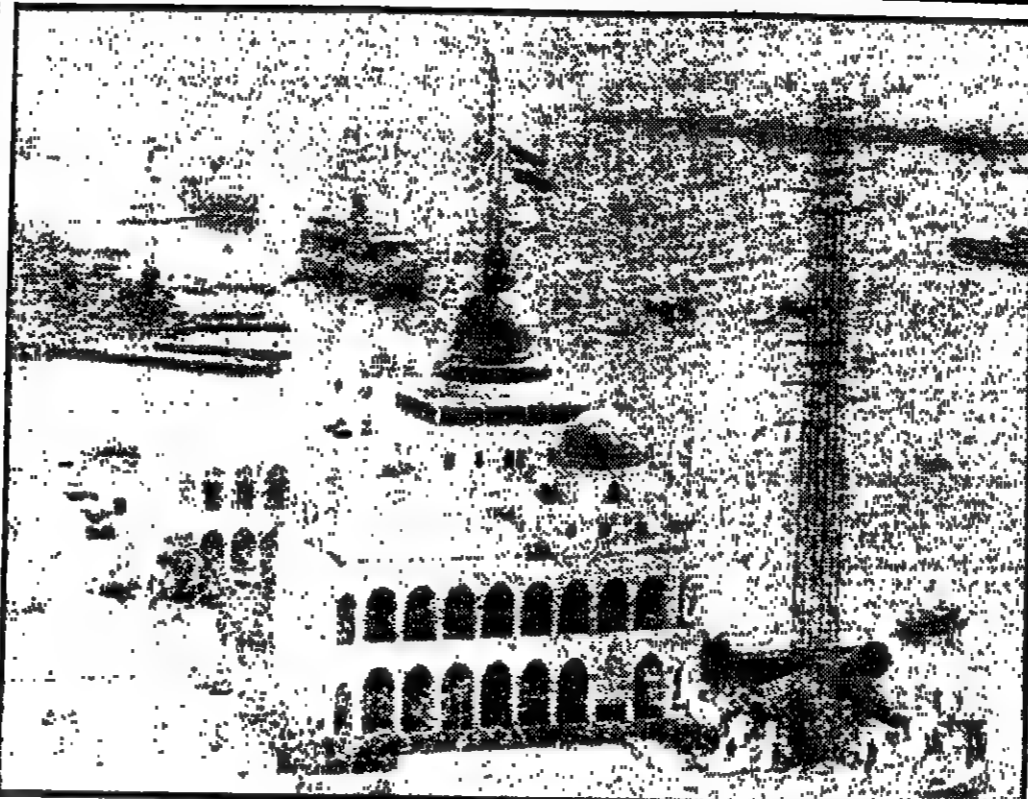
Egam's history has provided the Opposition with plentiful ammunition for attacking the seedier side of public sector management.

Signor Mario Einaudi, put in by Signor Piccoli as chairman, followed a policy of acquiring firms in difficulties, including some of the deadweight cast out by Signor Einaudi's Cefis in its reorganization of Montedison, so that Egam got the name of "Montedison's drossbin."

The 1974 Egam accounts, for example, showed in addition to operating losses of £892m (£5.9m) and exceptional losses of £1,034m (£10m), an item of £6,966m (£67.9m) losses "brought by" companies incorporated in the group.

In such ways, critics observed, pressures could be exercised on politicians through the presence of a large loss-making group subject constantly to the threat of plant closure and job redundancies.

Criticism of Signor Einaudi's methods came to a head when he tried to buy a substantial shareholding in a private Genoa shipping line, Villam E.



Headquarters of the Egyptian Suez Canal Authority, Port Said decked out on the reopening day of the canal in 1975: now earning \$1m a day.

## A two-lane Suez Canal?

What now for the Suez Canal? This controversial international waterway has been open 18 months, more or less, and is passing through a number of clouds on the horizon. Will overall tonnage in it continue to rise? Will large oil tankers return? What of the effects of the canal widening to 53ft draft (150,000dwt fully laden) instead of the present 38ft draft (60,000dwt)?

So far so good. But the canal's future has been threatened by a number of clouds on the horizon. Will overall tonnage in it continue to rise? Will large oil tankers return? What of the effects of the canal widening to 53ft draft (150,000dwt fully laden) instead of the present 38ft draft (60,000dwt)?

The cost of such a programme is huge, however, amounting to nearly \$4,000m (about £2,350m) over the years. Beyond the bounds of their brief, which assumed no limit to available funds, Maunsel also produced an alternative plan for development of the canal tallying more closely with Egypt's actual financial capabilities.

Maunsel's recommendations have been awaited closely by the World Bank, which has long been interested in the canal, but has lacked the sound financial appraisal of its future on which to base its disbursements. Crucial World Bank decisions should follow shortly, and the Arabs will jump in with funds

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of bringing large tankers through the canal. Coopers constructed a special computer model to calculate different returns on investments for various schemes of canal development.

The final report (and a French one commissioned at the same time) pleased the SCA, not least because they both advised theoretical courses of action similar to the authority's own: the present widening to 53ft draft (150,000dwt fully laden) by 1979, a second stage of development to accept ships with a 68ft draft (250,000dwt fully laden), by 1990—and, in addition, a series of by-passes, leading to complete dualing, by 2000.

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Maunsel's recommendations have

ST. MARK  
IN STAMPA  
THE TIMES  
DIE WELT

# Europa

## Confidence returning to the monetary world

The improvement in the monetary and financial situation which began to emerge a little over a month ago has on the whole been confirmed and even strengthened during the early days of 1977.

Two major international developments have contributed to this. First the decision by Saudi Arabia to increase the price of its oil by only 5 per cent and its expressed intention of making this decision toll by throwing the crushing weight of 500 million tons' production (stepped up by 50 million) into the scales if it considers such action warranted by the situation.

Second, the massive intervention by the International Monetary Fund and the three rich countries (United States, West Germany and Japan) to help Britain sort out its financial problems.

In addition there have been some satisfactory economic developments, such as the spontaneous recovery in the United States and the resumption of growth in West Germany.

Finally, there has been a renewal of confidence, most notably in the United States, where business circles are taking a favourable view of Mr Carter's new team and the measures recently introduced by Dr Burns, chairman of the Federal Reserve System, to relax the monetary situation.

In Britain, the Bank of England has reduced minimum lending rate from 14.5 per cent to 14 per cent. British interest rates could fall below this level once the effects of the earlier

monetary disorders have been recouped, as long as the social contract is renewed, the Budget deficit reduced and the current rate of deceleration in money supply growth is maintained.

In contrast the pound has achieved a genuine and substantial improvement, a remarkable development following upon the sombre predictions of recent months.

However, the most important development is unquestionably the dollar's decline, especially against the Deutsche mark, since the beginning of the year. This is no doubt due to the continuing and even increasing trade deficit, but also to the widening gap between American and German interest rates.

It is true that a slight easing of the dollar against the weaker currencies such as the franc and sterling is favourable, for instance lessening the burden of the cost of oil. However, this should not be allowed to get out of control. There is therefore a need to find a reasonable balance between the efforts made by the two or three dynamic countries which share the difficult task of leading the recovery and monetary stability. This has been made somewhat easier by the recent strengthening of American interest rates, which has helped the dollar.

The disparities between the monetary variations are obstacles blocking the way to the restoration of international order.

Maurice Bommensath

THE ECONOMY					
	Growth (per cent)	Wage	Budget	Stability	Inflation
	(1)	increases	deficit	balance	rate %
	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
United States	3	8	(\$80,000m)	(-12.2m)	4.5
West Germany	5	6	(DM50,000m)	(+DHSS.020m)	3
France	0	14	(FF30,000m)	(-4.8m)	10
Britain	-6	13	(£9,800m)	(-£580m)	18
Italy	5	20	(1,340,000m lire)	(-430,000m lire)	20

(1) Three-month moving average expressed as annual rate.  
(2) Estimate for 1976.  
(3) Estimate for fiscal 1976-77.  
(4) As percentage of gnp and in national currency.  
(5) The figure in national currency is the monthly average for the last three months.

MONETARY AND FINANCIAL EFFECTS					
	Annual growth	Day	Prime	Against	Change
	per cent	to	rate	dollar	in Stock
	(1)	day	(2)	(3)	Exchange
	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	index
Dollar	6	4	6.00	102.5	-0.5
Deutschmark	9	4.8	6.50	103.0	(5)
Franc	8	9 1/10	11.85	105.0	3
Pound	12	14 1/4	15.00	92.8	(-16)
Lira	20	16	20	88.0	10%

(6) Six-month moving average expressed as annual rate.  
(7) Figures in parentheses give percentage change in last month.  
(8) End-December 1976 = 100. Figure in parentheses gives position last month. Currencies are the five listed in table plus Japanese yen.  
(9) Change in previous month. Figure in parentheses gives change over previous 12 months.

## Better second half brings Reo Stakis another record year

A strong recovery in its second six months brought the pre-tax profits of the Reo Stakis Organisation to record £12.5m in the year to October 31.

This 16 per cent rise reflected a 25 per cent jump in sales to £29m. At half time, the betting and casino division turned a profit of £230,000 into losses of £14,000, but a rally left it with a profit of £304,000 for the full year, against £423,000.

Hotels and catering finished the year with profits 45 per cent up to £350,000 after a slip from £298,000 to £236,000 at half time.

Reo Stakis, chairman, says that the figures for the first quarter of 1977 indicate that the first six months should be ahead of the same period last year.

The systems were "encouraging". They were "particularly strong" in the closing months. —Renter-AP-DJ.

## Bright start at Kwikform

By concentrating on expansion overseas, Kwikform, the scaffolding group, hopes to bring in another record result this year. Happily, it is well on its way. Pre-tax profits in the six months to October 30 went up 15 per cent to £559,000. Turnover climbed 47 per cent to £7.5m. The shares hardened on the news.

The profits included associated profits of £10,000 against £129,000 but not an extraordinary credit of £235,000. Earnings a share were 7.4p against 4.9p, but the dividend is 2.15p gross again.

## Whitcroft jumps well over bid price

Advising shareholders to ignore the 22p a share from Hanson Trust, the board of Whitcroft says that it expects to propose a "substantially" higher dividend for the year to March 31, 1977, than last year's 3.54p net.

The group also estimates much higher pre-tax profits for 1976-77 than the £3.09m of the year before. It also thinks that the bigger dividend will justify a "significantly" higher market price.

The shares duly put on 7p to close at 138p.

## Xerox goes ahead

By making bigger net profits for the fourth quarter of 1976 (they rose from \$62.7m to \$79.2m), Xerox Corporation finished the year with a gain from \$34.6m to \$358.9m. Revenues for the fiscal quarter were \$1,140m against \$1,050m, and \$4,400m against \$4,050m for the year. Further earnings and revenue growth is expected in 1977, said Mr Peter McCook, chairman, in New York.

World-wide deliveries of copiers and duplicators were less than planned but they were better in the second half year. Orders for 9,200 duplicating

British Aluminium, BA, is in effect making a 100p cash share offer for those it does not already hold. At present it has 1.49m shares, about 77.7 per cent of the equity.

The ordinary shares of AC in which BA has no interest will be cancelled and holders will get 100p cash against the market price of 45p. They will keep the 1976 dividend. This is expected to be 3.25p net.

## Astra Inds rises 18pc

On a turnover up from £5.33m to £4.8m, the pre-tax profits of the Astra Industrial Group—formerly Astra Securities—rose 18.6 per cent to £189,000. Margins, which over the whole of last year rose from 7.6 per cent to 9.4 per cent, fell back from 8.7 per cent to 7.5 per cent in the latest six months.

Shareholders in this Staffordshire-based steel and engineering group got a dividend of 0.5p gross against 0.45p adjusted for a scrip issue.

Earnings a share were 1.55p against 1.46p, adjusted for both the scrip issue and last year's one-for-three rights issue.

## W. Williams busy now but fears future

All is going well now, for W. Williams, the now-famous metal discusser, founder, stock and engineer, but it may not last.

Output went well in the first half of 1976, continued to do so into the autumn, but in October some orders were cancelled. Mr H. E. Williams, chairman, in charge of "much improved" profits for 1976 (they were £94,000 before tax in 1975), he is "deeply concerned at the continued lack of confidence in the major industries on whom we in turn depend."

## Stirling Knitting

The sales of Stirling Knitting slipped from £2.23m to £2.22m in the six months to September 30. Pre-tax profits shd from £155,000 to £140,000. However, the interim payment is 0.5p gross again.

## Aluminium tie-up

In an agreed deal Aluminium Corporation is to become a wholly-owned subsidiary of

## Argyle Securities

The proposed cancellation of conversion rights on Argyle Securities' 11 and 94 per cent loan stocks raises a number of thorny questions about the valuation of convertibles.

Argyle, subject to an unconditional offer from Sir James Goldsmith's Générale Occidentale, proposes to cancel conversion rights—running until 1986 at the 11 per cent stock and until 1984 on the 94 per cent—in exchange for an additional one half per cent rate of interest on the stocks.

As GO's 50p a share cash bid for Argyle's ordinary shares has now been accepted by shareholders, cancellation of the convertible right might have been expected to go through without comment.

But a vocal minority of shareholders feel that the cancellation terms are unrealistically low. Argyle arrived at the terms on the advice of its broker, Joseph Sebag. It considers that the market price of the loan stocks both before and after GO's bid included a "negligible value" for the conversion right and so the one-half per cent offered—a "token gesture"—is perfectly fair.

Sebag expanded the point with examples showing the cost to stockholders of converting now, a perfectly valid argument given Argyle's depressed share price before GO's bid and the bid price itself, less than a third of the price in 1973 when the stock was issued.

Backed by Sebag and his financial adviser, Dawson Day, Argyle concludes that the proposals adequately recognize the existence of the conversion rights attached to the stocks in the present circumstances.

Opposition to the terms focuses on the length of the conversion right. It would clearly be disadvantageous to convert "in present circumstances."

But it is therefore correct to pitch cancellation terms on the basis of the current rather than the potential value of those rights? The current value is nil. But the rights have nine and six years to run respectively and much can happen in that time.

One opponent of the terms, Mr T. G. Arthur, a Birmingham-based financial consultant, calculates that the conversion rights would have a positive value before expiry if Argyle's shares managed an annual growth rate of just 4 per cent over the 11 per cent stock and 38p an annual growth rate of only 8 per cent would be needed to give the rights value, and he argues, since Argyle's shares carried no dividends (and the company admits none could be expected for "some years"), the pre-bid price of the shares necessarily included an element of assumed capital growth, an element ignored in Sebag's calculations.

Mr Derek Beall, of stockbroker Brewin, Dolphin, considers the proposals "an insult". He feels that if Argyle and its advisers manage to produce "the lowest possible" terms that is "no reason why people should accept the lowest."

Mr Beall accepts the actuarial case put by Mr Arthur and adds the possible nuisance value to GO of non-cancellation, although this must necessarily be a projected value and one that Sebag did not take into his calculations as GO has no plans to liquidate Argyle.

The meeting last week to consider the proposals had to be adjourned as stockholders representing less than half the issue turned up to vote. Argyle is recommending the meeting and this time only two stockholders are needed for a quorum, whatever stock they hold. Stockholders' apathy may, therefore, enable the proposals to go through unchanged.

Cancellation in this form, rare if not unprecedented in the convertible market, should not, however, go unnoticed. For recognizing long-dated convertible rights on current rather than projected values (and the basis of all convertible values) and cannot lightly be taken as a possible yardstick for future cancellations.

John Brennan

## FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORT

### Stock markets

## Best day for a month on trade figures and money supply trend

Spurred at first by encouraging money supply figures and lower interest rates, share prices finished at the top as the December trade figures stimulated a late mark-up.

Most market men had been looking for a deficit of about £250m, so the figure of £179m was well received even though the cautious were saying that the average of the last two months is far less encouraging.

Nevertheless, the FT index, 65 up at 3 pm, gained another four full points thereafter, to close 10.5 to the good at 374.4, its best day for exactly a month.

Dealers said that trading was more active than the odd seller kept prices below their best. But most were agreed that it was an encouraging start to the new account, though days without special factors, like trade figures, are a much better pointer to the way ahead.

Government bonds enjoyed a good session, advancing strongly on the news of an improvement in Britain's trade figures. The 10-year gilt showed net gains of about a point at the close of business, while "mediums" displayed

Textile concern and clothing group, R. & J. Fullman reports today on its six months to last September. They went well. A good increase in sales should mean a net profit of about £1m, a new record. Export markets would have played a key role. The corduroy division has turned round from losses to profits. At 50p, the yield is still 13 per cent, but then the rights issue of one-for-two in 1975 was also at 50p.

Even the announcement of the rise in some United States bank prime rates did not long dent the advance in the gilt market.

Jobbers reported good two-way business. Short-dated stocks advanced as strongly as other maturities, logging up gains of a full point, or even more in some stocks.

Star performer among the leading industrials was ICI, the most active share of the day and 10p to the good at 357p by the close. Not far behind were Beecham 388p and Fisons 305p and both 8p ahead, while Glaxo and Unilever 4p to 424p.

Electricals were enlivened by T. J. A. better by 12p to 220p, and all benefiting from last week's figures. EMI up 6p to 219p after the weakness which followed doubts over

future scanner sales and Reynolds Parsons where the gain was 8p to 133p and was inspired by pressure for power station interests to be merged.

Others to go ahead were BICC 5p to 86p, Rank 7p to 138p and after favourable comment, Comet Radio which ended 5p higher at 58p.

Over in the engineers, Metal Box took pride of place with a jump of 18p to 266p. Also favoured were Brockhouse 3p to 48p, Richardson Westgarth 3p to 40p, Hewlett-Packard 3p to 32p, Turner & Newall 6p to 136p and Tube Investments 15p to 326p. The last named's subsidiary, British Aluminium, was also in the news after a minority bid from Aluminium Corporation which spurred 53p to 98p on the news. Newman Industries gained 6p to 43p on Lohr's holding.

In stores, there was limited interest in UDS 3p to 60p, Debenhams 2p to 70p, Combined English 11p to 52p, British Home Stores 5p to 143p and Boots 4p to 122p. But the spotlight fell on Gateway Securities "A" which added 11p to 55p after bid terms were disclosed, later learnt to be from Linford, off 7p to 203p. In sympathy, Bishops Stores put on 3p to 68p.

Other bid stocks were Whitecroft, up 4p to 338p on the high dividend and profits forecast contained in the defence to Hanson Trust's terms, and Cattle Holdings which advanced 14p to 34p after terms from Provident Financial, up 2p to 64p.

Among those favoured by comment were Campari, better by 3p to 39p, Wm Baird 4p to 97p and A&H 10p to 172p, while, in the shipping sector, Common Brothers continued to be speculatively wanted at 150p, up 12p.

Shipping as a sector was also in good form, notably P & O 7p to 128p and British & Commonwealth 5p to 225p. Oils more than kept pace with the market and here BP rose 22p to 814p, Shell 8p to 478p, Ultramar 9p to 133p and, ahead of a statement on its tanker situation, Burmah which closed 5p to the good at 52p.

Equity turnover on J was 569,07m (14,439 Active stocks yesterday to Exchange were 161, B&D, Shell, BP & O, Long, BAT Ind, Commercial, Rank, Barclay, Emery, Royal, Gater, Reynolds Parsons and son Westgarth.

## Latest dividends

(and par value)	div	ago	date	total
Company	Ord	Year	Year	Year
0.32 Industrial Int	0.31	0.31	18 3	—
Centre Hotels Int	0.31	0.31	18 3	—
Gr Northern Ltd (25p) Fin	2.37	2.22	24 3	3.45
Courts (Furnishers)	1.41	1.28	24 3	—
Kwikform (20p)	0.55	0.55	18 3	—
Negat Holdings (5p) Fin	0.17	0.15	4 4	0.35
Reo Stakis (10p) Fin	0.65	0.57	13 4	0.92
Stirling Knitting (20p) Int	0.35	0.35	20 3	—

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pounds per share where in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.54. \* Adjusted

## Courts (Furnishers) still firmly on growth tack

By Tony May

Although the pre-tax profits of Courts (Furnishers) showed little growth at £1.95m in the six months to September 30, they are struck after transferring £1.5m, against £328,000 of the deferred profit reserve.

Turnover rose from £16.9m to £22.9m, and all benefiting from last week's figures. EMI up 6p to 219p after the weakness which followed doubts over

account has been taken of the currently favourable exchange rate fluctuations as these will be added in at the year end.

Mr Cohen adds that the second half year is traditionally the most profitable. He reports that trading in both the United Kingdom and overseas is continuing to go well.

The group has opened four new stores in the United Kingdom in the current year, and it is, with over 100 stores in six counties "well situated for further progress."

Over the whole of last year the furniture boom gave the group a particularly good year at home, and an even more marked improvement overseas.

Pre-tax profits jumped from £3.48m to a record £5.73m on sales up from £28.4m to £40m. Exchange rate windfalls brought in £565,000 against a loss of £130,000.

## Forward Trust at peak £10m

In spite of strongly rising interest rates in the second half, Forward Trust, the finance house subsidiary of Midland Bank, achieved a 40 per cent profit growth to a record £10m.

The improvement was almost exactly in line with a 39 per cent increase in instalment finance turnover to £170m which Mr John Cave, chairman, says reflects the company's increasing share of the market. The quality of business, as measured by the accounts in arrears, has been maintained at a "satisfactory level."

## Guinness profits down 40pc under CCA rules

There were exceptional reasons why Arthur Guinness & Co. Ltd. in the year to September 25, like currency gains on earnings overseas and the summer boom in Harp Lager.

Lord Iveagh, chairman, pays tribute to them in his chairman's statement. But he adds: "They may not be repeated in the coming year."

He points out that the past year's profits, though well up in money terms, were only equal to those achieved five years ago in real terms, and part of the money increase reflected exchange gains from the slide in sterling.

In the year to September 25 money pre-tax profits were £39.3m. But current cost accounting would have cut these by £15.2m or 40 per cent. Extra depreciation would have absorbed £8.5m, and an adjustment to sales £7m.

## Business appointments

### Changes on Grattan box

Mr J. Michael Pickard has joined the board of Grattan Warehouses and has been made chairman in place of Mr. W. H. G. Lake in March. He will continue as managing director of the company. Mr. Michael Pickard is also a director of the company. Mr. W. J. Long has been appointed to the board of Lockwoods Foods.

Mr D. V. Ayres is to become chairman of Yorkshire Imperial Plastics on the retirement of Mr. W. H. G. Lake in March. He will continue as managing director of the company. Mr. Michael Pickard is also a director of the company. Mr. W. J. Long has been appointed to the board of Lockwoods Foods.

## Hotels busy interest cash heavy at Cer

By Adrienne Gleeson

After a set back in part of last year, Cer (Cranston) has recovered in the first three months of 1977. Its turnover of £24,000 against the £28,000 of last year and turnover went £18,11m to £10,04m.

The interim dividend a share gross gain, directors intend to maximum in the final. Cer's Hotels makes by far the greater of its profits in the of its financial year, occupancy rates in the hotels, which provide half the rooms and by greater part of profit until recently, pattern could change.

However, the brutal autumn's interest rate will fall on second hand. They will have as since Centre has high occupancy rates in the hotels, which provide half the rooms and by greater part of profit until recently, pattern could change.

Mr R. J. Long has been appointed to the board of Lockwoods Foods.

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THE LIST OF APPLICATIONS WILL BE OPENED AT 10 a.m. ON THURSDAY, 20th JANUARY 1977 AND WILL BE CLOSED ON THE SAME DAY

## 13 1/2 per cent TREASURY LOAN, 1993

ISSUE OF £1,250,000,000 AT £96.00 PER CENT

Payable in Full on Application

Interest payable half-yearly on 23rd May and 23rd November

## International Tin Agreement in trouble as buffer stock runs out

## International Tin Agreement in trouble as buffer stock runs out

## Commodities

The International Tin Council, the body responsible for administering the agreement, was in serious difficulties even before last week, having already failed to persuade Bolivia to ratify the new agreement. Now it has learnt that the buffer council meets in March to discuss the issue.

The United States, of course, was the most prominent member of the consumer lobby which outvoted Bolivia, forcing it to threaten to withdraw from the agreement.

But if the United States does not utilize its huge stockpile of tin to help stabilize the near future, it will remain above MSI 325, and the Tia Council regime will be a measure of control over the market?

stock, the sole means of keeping prices within the limits laid down in the agreement, is exhausted.

Nor that the news was in any way unexpected. Buffer stock supplies, which amounted to more than 20,000 tonnes at the end of the year, were expected to be sold by the end of the year.

It is the United States which now holds the key which could force world prices back within the agreement range. Heavy stocks of tin are held there by the general services administration and these strategic reserves have often been used in the past to fill any shortfall.

The simple answer is that the ceiling will have to be raised. The council has itself in a similar manner before the buffer stock supply in 1967 and 1968, and 1969, and 1970, and 1971, and 1972, and 1973, and 1974, and 1975, and 1976, and 1977, and 1978, and 1979, and 1980, and 1981, and 1982, and 1983, and 1984, and 1985, and 1986, and 1987, and 1988, and 1989, and 1990, and 1991, and 1992, and 1993, and 1994, and 1995, and 1996, and 1997, and 1998, and 1999, and 2000, and 2001, and 2002, and 2003, and 2004, and 2005, and 2006, and 2007, and 2008, and 2009, and 2010, and 2011, and 2012, and 2013, and 2014, and 2015, and 2016, and 2017, and 2018, and 2019, and 2020, and 2021, and 2022, and 2023, and 2024, and 2025, and 2026, and 2027, and 2028, and 2029, and 2030, and 2031, and 2032, and 2033, and 2034, and 2035, and 2036, and 2037, and 2038, and 2039, and 2040, and 2041, and 2042, and 2043, and 2044, and 2045, and 2046, and 2047, and 2048, and 2049, and 2050, and 2051, and 2052, and 2053, and 2054, and 2055, and 2056, and 2057, and 2058, and 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end of 1975, we had to begin to have to fall to around 1,500 tonnes in mid-December, since when the buffer stock manager has been forced to release additional quantities in an effort to arrest the upsurge in world prices.

However, with world prices in supply.

The trouble is, though, since the Vietnam war, the United States has become increasingly aware of its vulnerable position on the world market, having to rely so heavily for supplies on countries like Malaysia, Thailand and the Philippines in making frequent change of agreement price, having to do so twice during the first half of 1976.

However, agreements on higher price may now be easy to achieve. The ILO meeting of the council of

now comfortably above the tin agreement ceiling, and the buffer stock manager therefore powerless to buy tin, the problem lies in finding ways to replenish stocks.

This is just what Bolivia, the world's second biggest tin producer after Malaysia, warned

against when the current price range of Malaysian 1,075 to Malaysian 1,325 a picul was negotiated as recently as last December.

Bolivia, a highcost producer, argued at the time that the range was totally unrealistic because of quality of production.

Some feel that could take perhaps six months to gain the kind of approval of Congress that the U.S. Treasury is now seeking.

New York, Jan. 17.—Stocks were mostly steady, but slightly lower in the afternoon.

said Bolivia was at least \$M1,200 a picul, so a range of \$M1,150 to \$M1,430 should be adopted.

As a producer, Bolivia may have been more concerned about the minimum price rather than the maximum, but with the

Strate tin price climbing to a record level of M\$1,400 a picul this week, its opposition was clearly justified. However, that is no guarantee that the consumers who backed the Bolivian proposal then will be

## ance & Offshore Funds

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## Stock Exchange Prices

## Strong start to account

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Jan 17. Dealings End, Jan 28. 5 Contango Day, Jan 31. Settlement Day, Feb 8.

Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

1977			1976			1975			1974			1973			1972			1971			1970			1969			1968			1967			1966			1965			1964			1963			1962			1961			1960			1959			1958			1957			1956			1955			1954			1953			1952			1951			1950			1949			1948			1947			1946			1945			1944			1943			1942			1941			1940			1939			1938			1937			1936			1935			1934			1933			1932			1931			1930			1929			1928			1927			1926			1925			1924			1923			1922			1921			1920			1919			1918			1917			1916			1915			1914			1913			1912			1911			1910			1909			1908			1907			1906			1905			1904			1903			1902			1901			1900			1899			1898			1897			1896			1895			1894			1893			1892			1891			1890			1889			1888			1887			1886			1885			1884			1883			1882			1881			1880			1879			1878			1877			1876			1875			1874			1873			1872			1871			1870			1869			1868			1867			1866			1865			1864			1863			1862			1861			1860			1859			1858			1857			1856			1855			1854			1853			1852			1851			1850			1849			1848			1847			1846			1845			1844			1843			1842			1841			1840			1839			1838			1837			1836			1835			1834			1833			1832			1831			1830			1829			1828			1827			1826			1825			1824			1823			1822			1821			1820			1819			1818			1817			1816			1815			1814			1813			1812			1811			1810			1809			1808			1807			1806			1805			1804			1803			1802			1801			1800			1799			1798			1797			1796			1795			1794			1793			1792			1791			1790			1789			1788			1787			1786			1785			1784			1783			1782			1781			1780			1779			1778			1777			1776			1775			1774			1773			1772			1771			1770			1769			1768			1767			1766			1765			1764			1763			1762			1761			1760			1759			1758			1757			1756			1755			1754			1753			1752			1751			1750			1749			1748			1747			1746			1745			1744			1743			1742			1741			1740			1739			1738			1737			1736			1735			1734			1733			1732			1731			1730			1729			1728			1727			1726			1725			1724			1723			1722			1721			1720			1719			1718			1717			1716			1715			1714			1713			1712			1711			1710			1709			1708			1707			1706			1705			1704			1703			1702			1701			1700			1699			1698			1697			1696			1695			1694			1693			1692			1691			1690			1689			1688			1687			1686			1685			1684			1683			1682			1681			1680			1679			1678			1677			1676			1675			1674			1673			1672			1671			1670			1669			1668			1667			1666			1665			1664			1663			1662			1661			1660			1659			1658			1657			1656			1655			1654			1653			1652			1651			1650			1649			1648			1647			1646			1645			1644			1643			1642			1641			1640			1639			1638			1637			1636			1635			1634			1633			1632		
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GENERAL VACANCIES

## GRADUATE

A very successful port authority with a year of over £16 million is looking for a graduate to assist the Authority's staff.

The work will include secretarial duties, clerical negotiations, and forward planning.

The post will be particularly suitable for a graduate with a few years' experience, but other graduates who are interested should apply.

Applications should be made to:

Director of Personnel Services,  
85 ANDRARTLEPOOL PORT AUTHORITY,  
The Square, Middlesbrough,  
County Durham TS2 1AH.

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celebrated and moved to bigger and better offices at

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WANT recently qualified, 25-35. For investment finance 3 Managers. £4,500+ p.w.

1977, 25-35, with experience and good work record for 2 years. £3,500-£5,000 p.w. 40% commission.

ASSISTANT to Financial Director. No short-hand. Low salary. Banking experience useful. £2,750.

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you looking for complete job involvement stimulating atmosphere?

the answer is "Yes" to all these questions, you'd be the person we are looking for.

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NEEDS AN ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

nt someone who is prepared to work very long hours. And the country's leading candidates, and become totally involved in the task of campaigning for electoral reform.

His/her political/PR experience would be very useful. Age 30-40. We offer a competitive salary according to experience, plus car, pleasant surroundings and colleagues, training and excellent job.

Appointment please ring 01-629 2791.

### BUYER 30/40

NC or Associate Membership of Institute of Purchasing and Supply required by well known Saudi Arabian company in London. The Landing of purchases of supplies, oil, machinery, construction, and heavy duty equipment. Must be able to deal with contract, negotiable, a good knowledge of sources of supply. Some UK travel. Car driver preferred. Starting salary negotiable. Telephone 235 7318. Mrs. Amin.

### GENERAL VACANCIES

## NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAUX

REQUIRES

### SENIOR INFORMATION OFFICER

to supervise four information officers and share the work of writing circulars, brochures, advising bureaux by telephone and letter, and preparing evidence papers. Also to be responsible for training new staff and supervising existing staff.

The person appointed needs a wide knowledge of the social welfare field and the work of the Citizens Advice Bureaux. He must have a good knowledge of the law, and be able to write clearly and accurately. An understanding of the social welfare field is essential. An understanding of the social welfare field is essential. An understanding of the social welfare field is essential.

### ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

to be responsible to the Head of the Information Department for the running of the bureaux. He must have a good knowledge of the law, and be able to write clearly and accurately. An understanding of the social welfare field is essential. An understanding of the social welfare field is essential. An understanding of the social welfare field is essential.

Salary scales: Senior Information Officer: £3,945-£5,945, not starting point, but likely to be more than £3,945. Administrative Assistant: £2,515-£3,515. Both scales are for full-time work. 4 weeks annual leave; superannuation scheme; subsidised lunches.

For further details and application form, apply to the Administrator, National Association of Citizens Advice Bureaux, 25 Bedford Square, London WC1B 3AU. 01-637 0000, or telephone local branch at the same number. Closing date 4 February.

### THE LONDON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

requires an

## EXECUTIVE

for its North American section

He/she will also be required to assist with parts of the Middle East. Duties involve advising members on the markets in these areas and organising conferences, seminars, overseas trade missions and other promotional work, as well as acting as secretary to the relevant section committees.

Applicants should have export experience and a good knowledge of the U.S. and Middle East markets. The position requires initiative, originality and adaptability. Fluency in a major foreign language desirable. Salary will be in line with current business levels and the Chamber operates a contributory pension scheme.

Applications in writing with c.v. to the Personnel Officer, 69 Cannon Street, London EC4N 3AB.

### PUBLIC AND EDUCATIONAL APPOINTMENTS

## MERCHANT TAYLORS' SCHOOL, NORTHWOOD

Required for September 1977

A HEAD OF BIOLOGY DEPARTMENT

New Biology Dept. opened September 1976. Well established Biology Dept. and flourishing. Fluency in a major foreign language desirable. Salary will be in line with current business levels and the Chamber operates a contributory pension scheme.

Applications in writing with c.v. to the Personnel Officer, 69 Cannon Street, London EC4N 3AB.

### EXPERIENCED SECRETARY

Required for a well known London company. The Landing of purchases of supplies, oil, machinery, construction, and heavy duty equipment. Must be able to deal with contract, negotiable, a good knowledge of sources of supply. Some UK travel. Car driver preferred. Starting salary negotiable. Telephone 235 7318. Mrs. Amin.

### GENERAL VACANCIES

## Bookkeeper

Office Manager/ess

£3,000-£3,500 a.w.e.

Applicants should be able to keep the books up to date and bring them to trial balance and, in time, to take over administrative duties. An understanding of the social welfare field is essential. An understanding of the social welfare field is essential. An understanding of the social welfare field is essential.

Telephone: 01-580 8621

Ref. CCF.

### HELP THE AGED PRESS OFFICER

We are urgently seeking a creative and enthusiastic Press Officer to help develop the work of the Charity. The person appointed will be responsible for the public relations of the Charity. He must have a good knowledge of the law, and be able to write clearly and accurately. An understanding of the social welfare field is essential. An understanding of the social welfare field is essential. An understanding of the social welfare field is essential.

Applicants should have a good knowledge of the law, and be able to write clearly and accurately. An understanding of the social welfare field is essential. An understanding of the social welfare field is essential. An understanding of the social welfare field is essential.

### IS 1977 YOUR CRUCIAL YEAR?

We can help you if you are: 1. A manager or director. 2. A senior executive. 3. A senior professional. 4. A senior administrative. 5. A senior technical. 6. A senior financial. 7. A senior legal. 8. A senior medical. 9. A senior educational. 10. A senior cultural. 11. A senior religious. 12. A senior political. 13. A senior social. 14. A senior environmental. 15. A senior health. 16. A senior safety. 17. A senior security. 18. A senior defence. 19. A senior transport. 20. A senior energy. 21. A senior information. 22. A senior communication. 23. A senior media. 24. A senior advertising. 25. A senior public relations. 26. A senior marketing. 27. A senior sales. 28. A senior customer service. 29. A senior human resources. 30. A senior training. 31. A senior development. 32. A senior research. 33. A senior innovation. 34. A senior technology. 35. A senior engineering. 36. A senior design. 37. A senior architecture. 38. A senior construction. 39. A senior manufacturing. 40. A senior services. 41. A senior retail. 42. A senior food and drink. 43. A senior health and beauty. 44. A senior travel and tourism. 45. A senior leisure and entertainment. 46. A senior sports and recreation. 47. A senior education and training. 48. A senior culture and heritage. 49. A senior arts and crafts. 50. A senior science and technology. 51. A senior environment and conservation. 52. A senior international and global. 53. A senior corporate and business. 54. A senior government and public sector. 55. A senior non-profit and voluntary. 56. A senior community and social. 57. A senior media and communication. 58. A senior marketing and sales. 59. A senior human resources and training. 60. A senior research and development. 61. A senior innovation and technology. 62. A senior engineering and design. 63. A senior architecture and construction. 64. A senior manufacturing and services. 65. A senior retail and food and drink. 66. A senior health and beauty. 67. 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All recruitment advertisements on this page are open to both male and female applicants.

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If you are between 18-25, well spoken, friendly, and a good typist, you could be the job for you. This young and dynamic company is looking for a Receptionist to handle the public and make a really successful career for yourself.

Previous interviewing experience a great asset but most important is a good personality and a pleasant, confident manner. The company is a well established, successful business in the City of London. Excellent working conditions, friendly atmosphere and low salary.

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This position would suit a person, perhaps a college leaver, with a pleasant personality and good telephone manner who is confident in talking to people at all levels, and who enjoys working as part of a team.

At least 4 'O' levels and fast and accurate audio typing is essential.

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CROSVENOR HOUSE HOTEL

Park Lane, W.1

A vacancy has arisen for the post of SECRETARY to the Food and Beverage Manager.

The suitable applicant (male or female) should have good shorthand and typing skills and would be expected to liaise with members of staff at all levels.

We offer a good salary, free meals on duty.

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Phone 01-606 4040.

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